

STARS

and S.T.R.I.P.E.

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STARMAN™



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MEET DC'S NEWEST STAR!



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...there'd be another STAR in the sky.

JACK KNIGHT, as the son of the original STARMAN, continues my cosmically powered legacy in his own unorthodox way...

...today, alongside PAT DUGAN, formerly known as STRIPESY -- the original STAR SPANGLED KID & grown-up sidekick! Pat now wears the high-tech robotic armor known as S.T.R.I.P.E.!

...in an effort to keep tabs on his stepdaughter, COURTNEY WHITMORE, the new STAR SPANGLED KID!

A CHILLY DAY IN OPAL

Introducing THE NEW STAR SPANGLED KID
and S.T.R.I.P.E.!

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JACK KNIGHT created by JAMES ROBINSON & TONY HARRIS

Yep. Pat sure has his hands FULL.

I was **LEERY** about Courtney at first. But after the **NEBULA MAN** incident she proved we need heroes like her in this day and age.

MOVE YOUR BUTT, STARMAN!

I just hope Jack doesn't **KILL HER** before she gets started.

I **KNEW** I'D RUN INTO OPAL'S FAMOUS STARMAN. LOOKED FORWARD TO IT, ACTUALLY, IT'LL GIVE MY COMEBACK SOME PUBLICITY.

YOUR FRIENDS ARE A SURPRISE, THOUGH, BUT EVERYTHING'S WORKING OUT PERFECTLY--

--I NEEDED TO FEED THESE HUNGRY BEARS SOMETHING ANYWAY.

WHOOOSH!

POLAR BEAR HABITAT

SORRY, MR. BEAR.

BUT WE'LL FEED YOU AFTER I'VE PUT MY BOOT IN THIS LOSER'S FACE.

OOOOF!

DON'T GET COCKY, KID.

YOU'RE NOT WEARING A ROBOTIC SUIT.

WHACK!

DAMAGE TO THRUSTERS. REPAIR IN PROGRESS.







--Yesterday.

Back in the 40s, Sylvester Pemberton teamed up with his chauffeur, Pat Dugan, becoming the STAR SPANGLER KID and STRIPESY. And they were a good team. Always working TOGETHER.

Or with the Seven Soldiers of Victory. A group we didn't hear A LOT about--

--until years later when we learned their members hadn't retired but had been SCATTERED across TIME.

With the help of the Justice League of America we managed to rescue most of them DAYS within their arrival in their various time periods.

Sylvester had been taking shelter inside a cave in the year 14,000 B.C. for a WEEK before Aquaman and the others brought him into the PRESENT.

Sylvester was different. I took him under my wing. Gave him my cosmic rod and my spot in the JUSTICE SOCIETY.

And then Sylvester changed the rod into a belt. The cosmic converter belt.

I was really PROUD OF that kid. UNTIL that morning he came to visit Jack and me.

So when they arrived in our time they were a LITTLE OLDER than they were in the 40s. EXCEPT for poor Vigilante. Stuck in the Old West for years.

THAT Johnny Thunder never learned. But that's another story, one I'm sure Pat will share with Courtney some day.

Pat didn't take being thrown into the FUTURE so well-- he hung up his striped shirt; tried to start a new life too QUICKLY, I think.





It was right after he
Founded INFINITY INC.
With the rest of the
CHILDREN.

I never
UNDERSTOOD
his DECISION
that day. NOT
until NOW.

SYLVESTER?



HI, TED.
LONG TIME
NO SEE.



ALAN SAID YOU WERE
DOING WELL. YOU LOOK
GREAT.

YOU,
TOO.

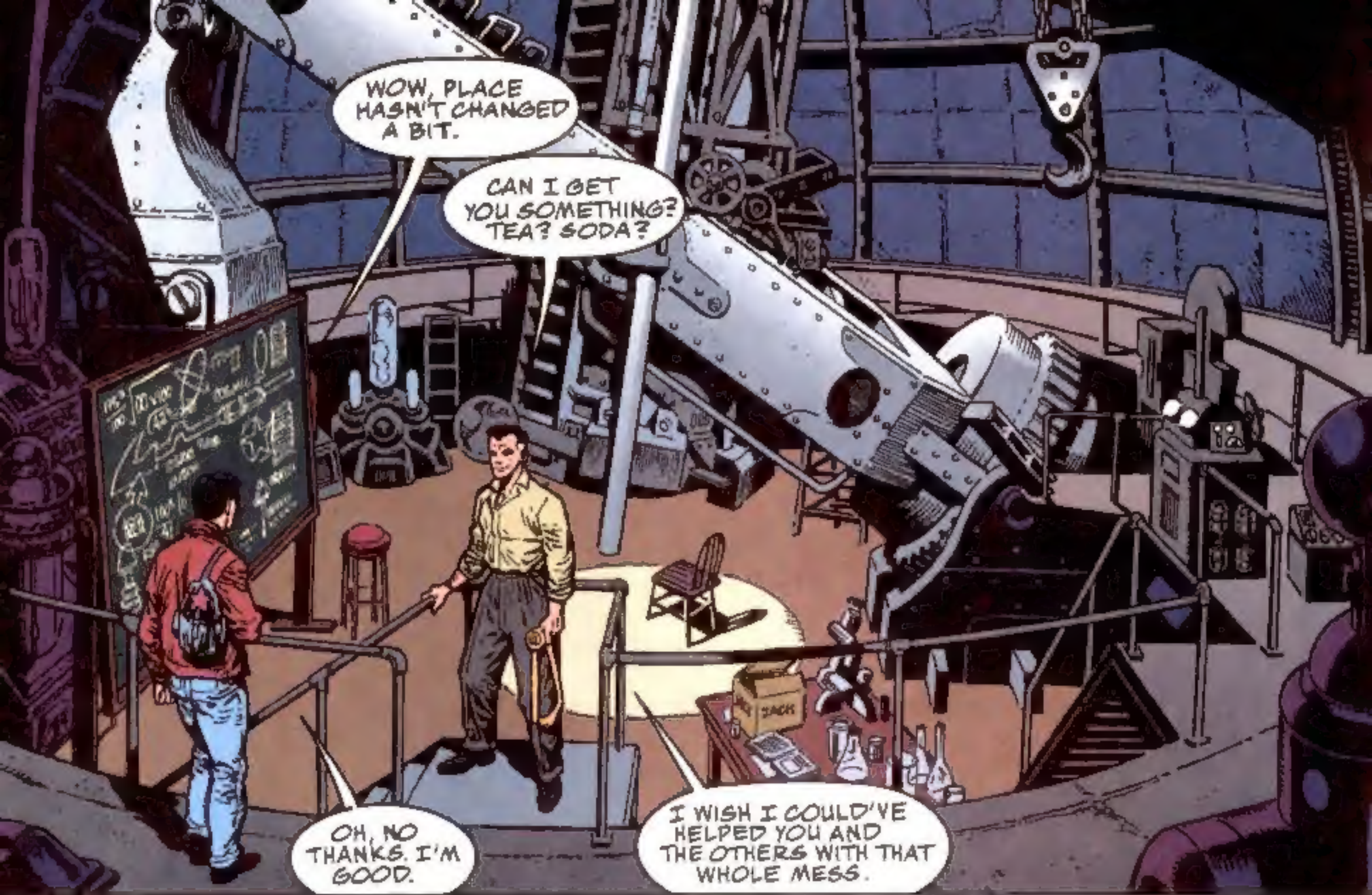
IT'S REALLY
NICE TO SEE
YOU. WHAT
BRINGS YOU
TO OPAL?



JUST ON MY
WAY FROM NEW YORK
BACK TO L.A. THOUGHT
I'D STOP IN AND ASK
YOU FOR SOME HELP.

THE ULTRA-
HUMANITE DECIDED
TO SIT ON MY BELT.
IT HASN'T BEEN
WORKING TOO
WELL.

PLEASE,
COME IN.
COME IN.



WOW, PLACE
HASN'T CHANGED
A BIT.

CAN I GET
YOU SOMETHING?
TEA? SODA?

OH, NO
THANKS. I'M
GOOD.

I WISH I COULD'VE
HELPED YOU AND
THE OTHERS WITH THAT
WHOLE MESS.



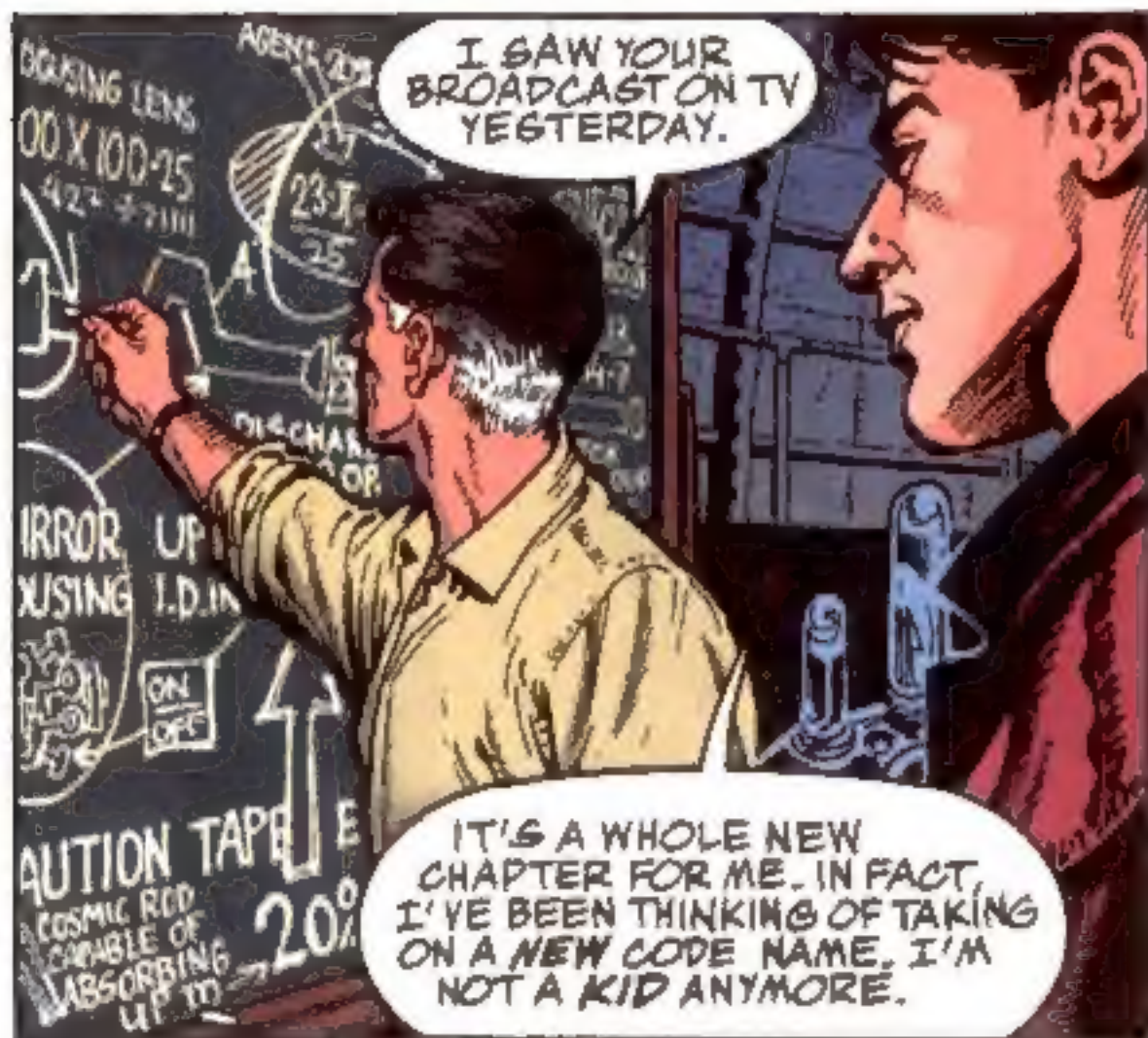
BUT CARTER AND SHIERA
DID SAY YOU KIDS HANDLED IT
QUITE WELL. THEY'RE VERY
PROUD OF HECTOR. WON'T
STOP TALKING ABOUT HIM.

THIS BELT
DOES NEED
WORK.



WE'RE REALLY
COMING
TOGETHER.

OBSIDIAN'S A
LITTLE... ODD.
BUT I'M
STARTING TO
CONNECT WITH
EVERYONE.



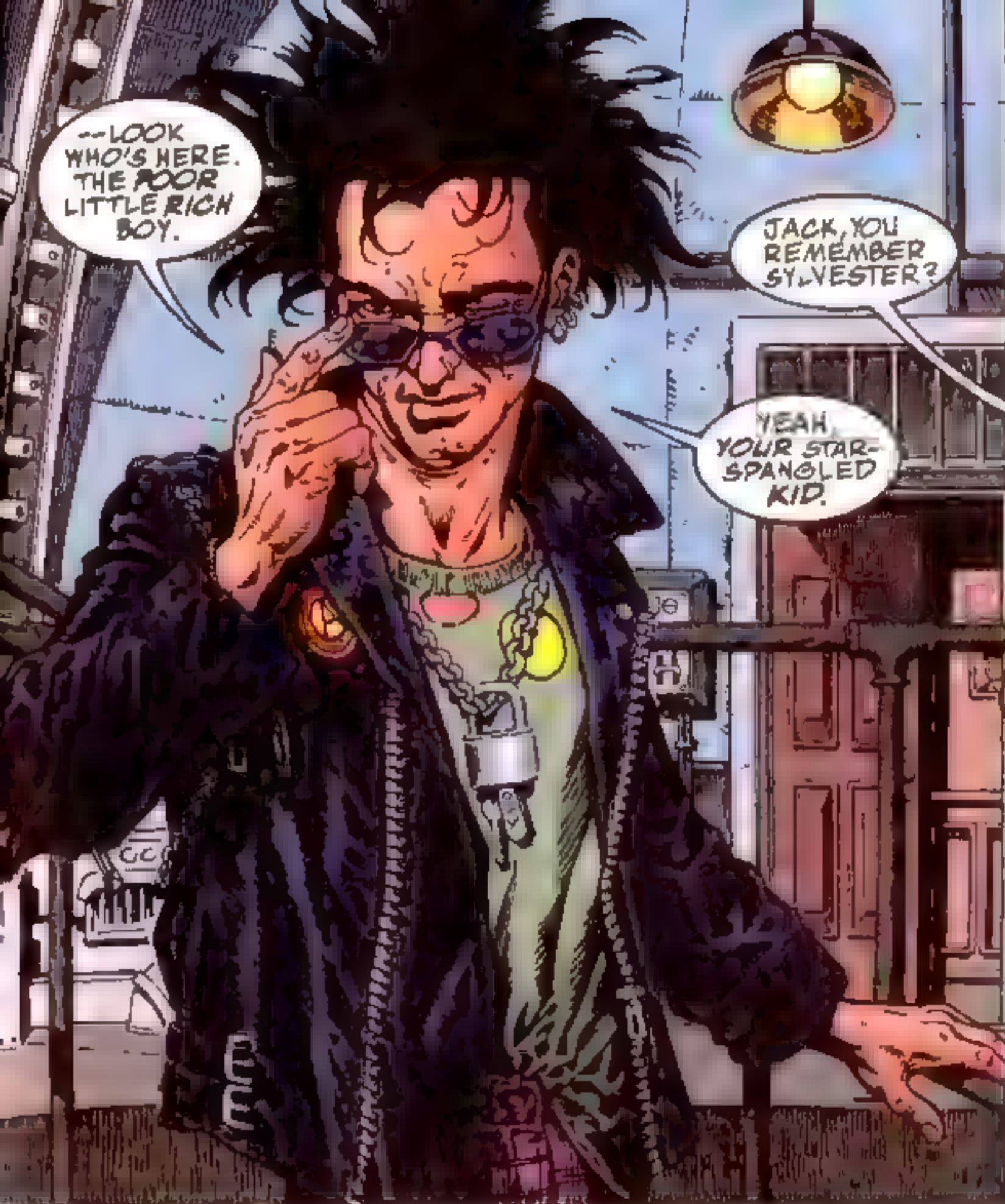
I SAW YOUR
BROADCAST ON TV
YESTERDAY.

IT'S A WHOLE NEW
CHAPTER FOR ME. IN FACT,
I'VE BEEN THINKING OF TAKING
ON A NEW CODE NAME. I'M
NOT A KID ANYMORE.



YOU KNOW
WITH DAVID
AND--

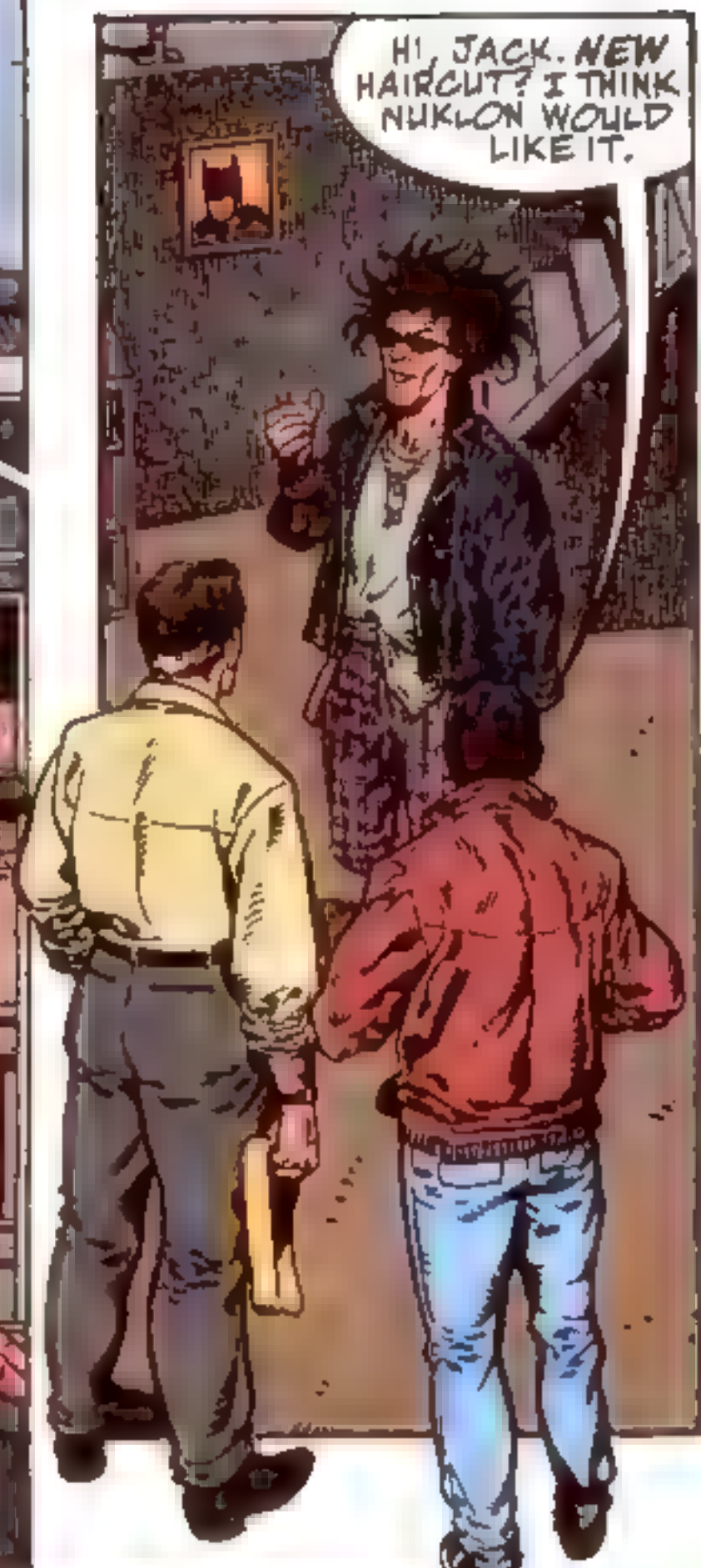
WELL,
WELL,
WELL...



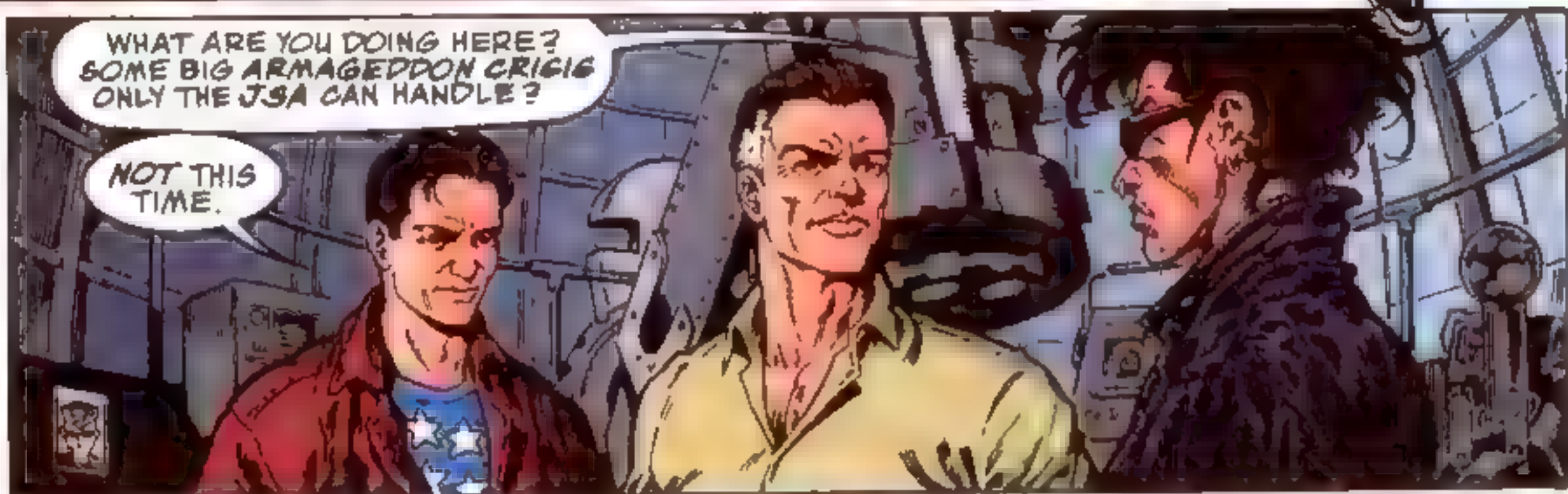
--LOOK WHO'S HERE. THE POOR LITTLE RICH BOY.

JACK, YOU REMEMBER SYLVESTER?

YEAH YOUR STAR-SPANGLED KID.

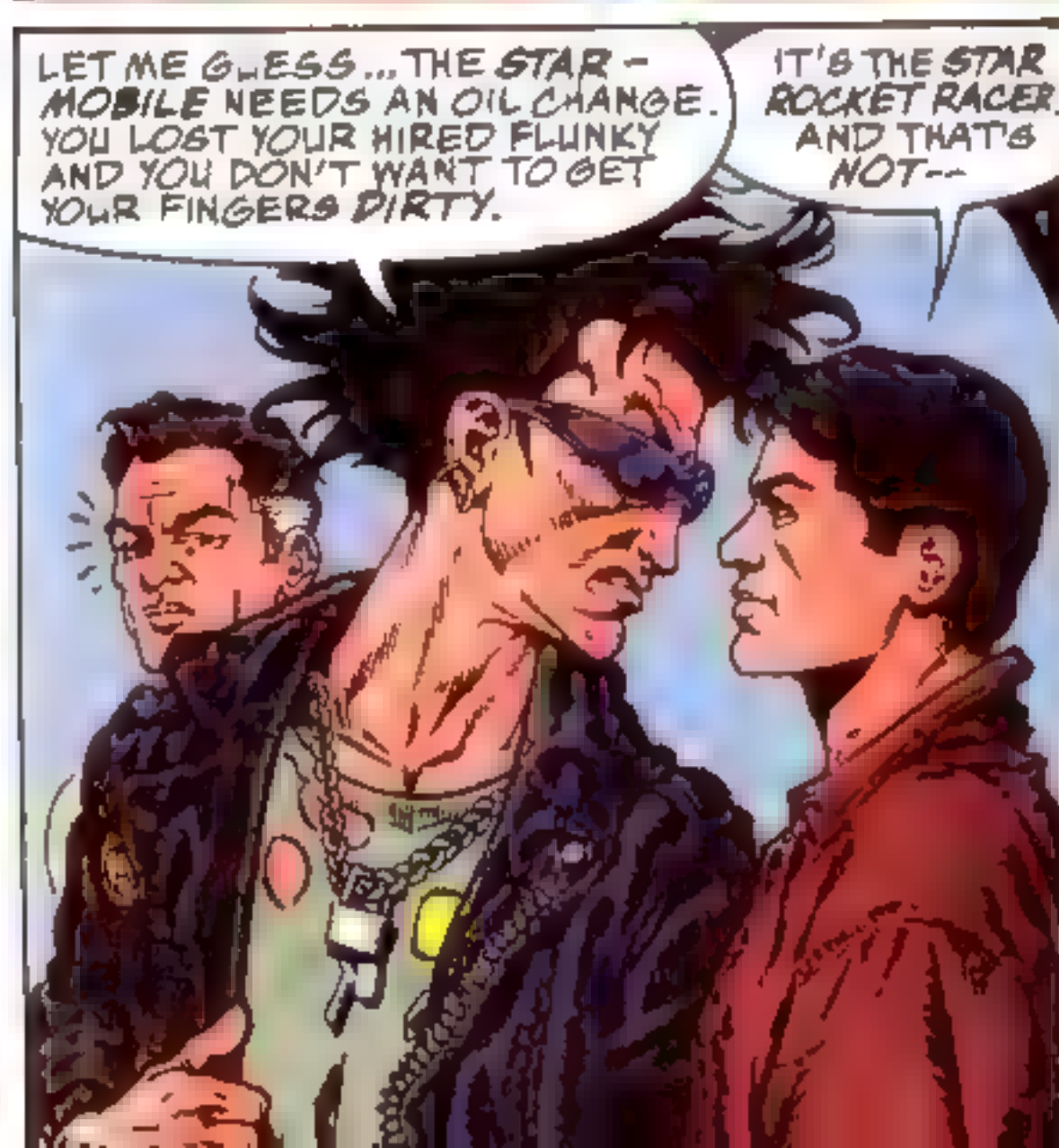


HI, JACK. NEW HAIRCUT? I THINK NUKLON WOULD LIKE IT.



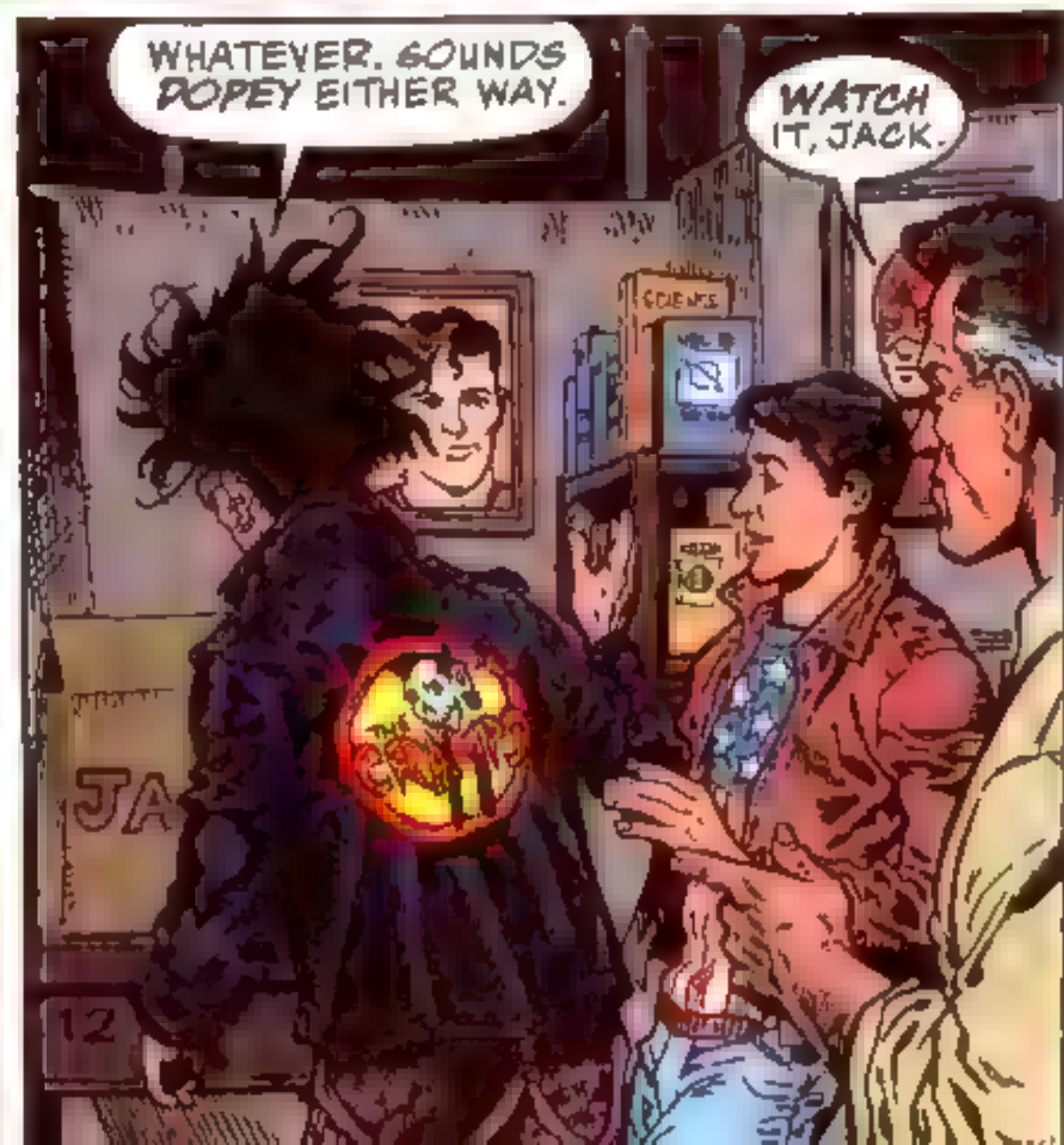
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? SOME BIG ARMAGEDDON CRISIS ONLY THE JSA CAN HANDLE?

NOT THIS TIME.



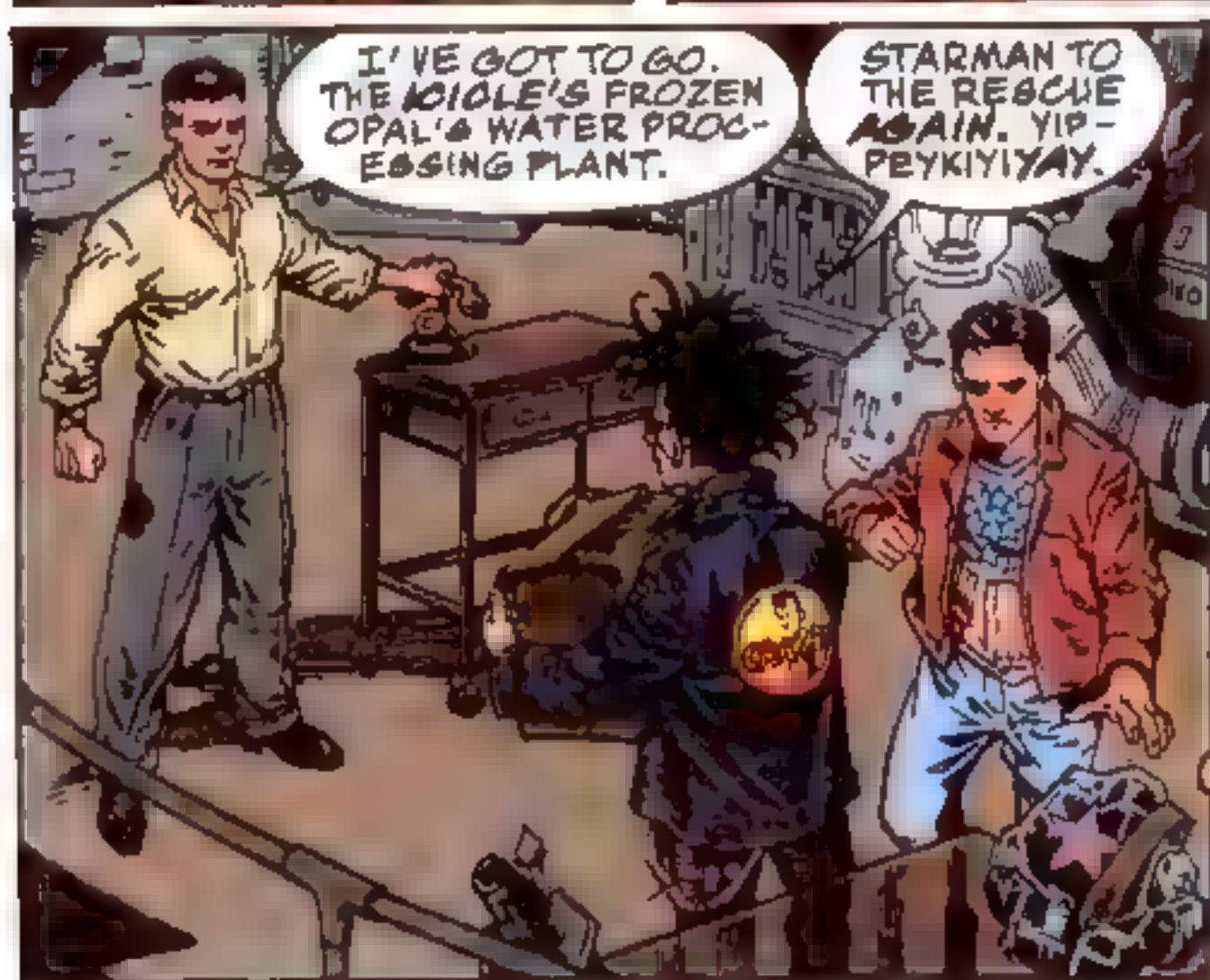
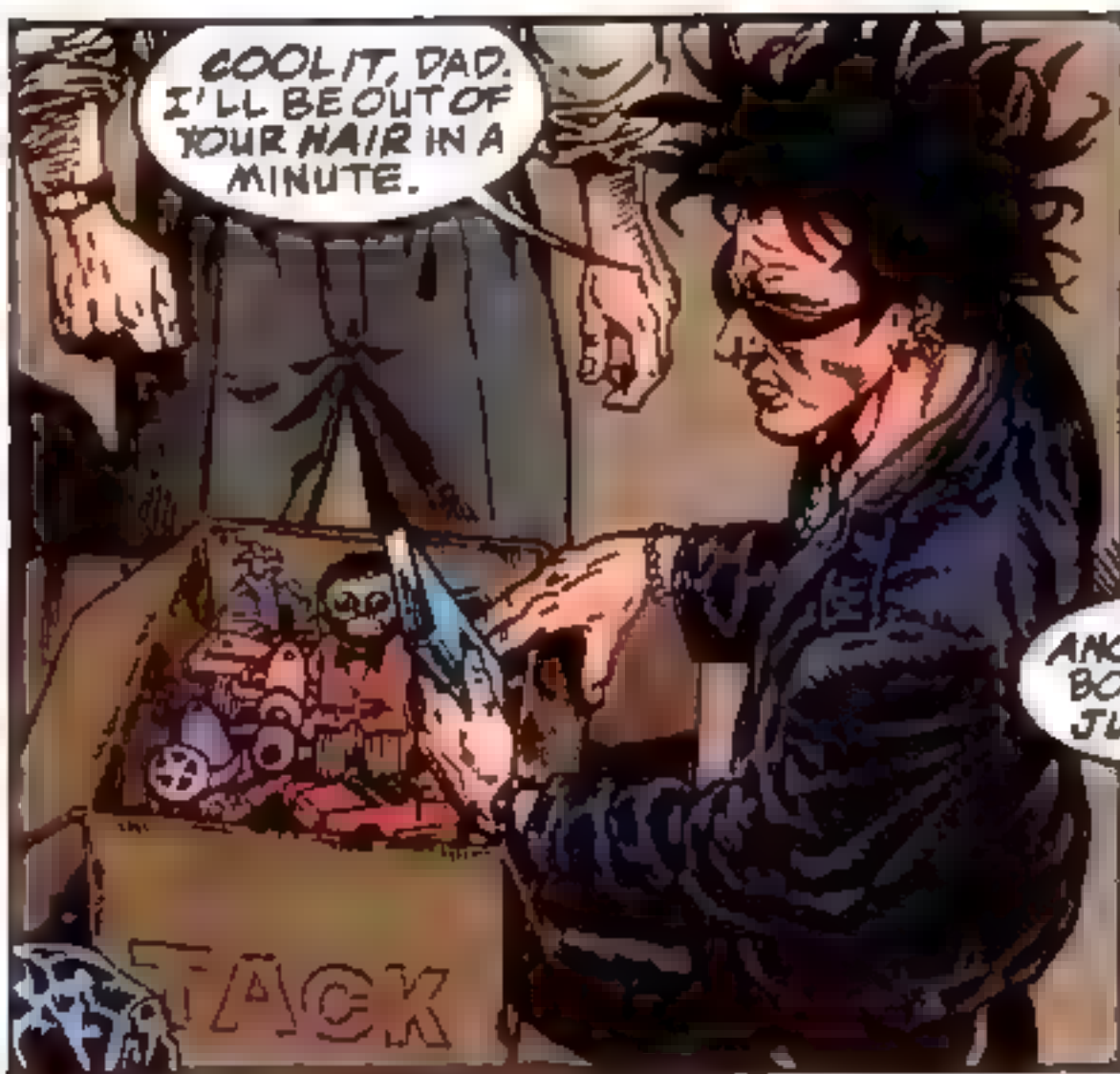
LET ME GUESS... THE STAR-MOBILE NEEDS AN OIL CHANGE. YOU LOST YOUR HIRED FLUNKY AND YOU DON'T WANT TO GET YOUR FINGERS DIRTY.

IT'S THE STAR ROCKET RACER. AND THAT'S NOT--



WHATEVER. SOUNDS DOPEY EITHER WAY.

WATCH IT, JACK.

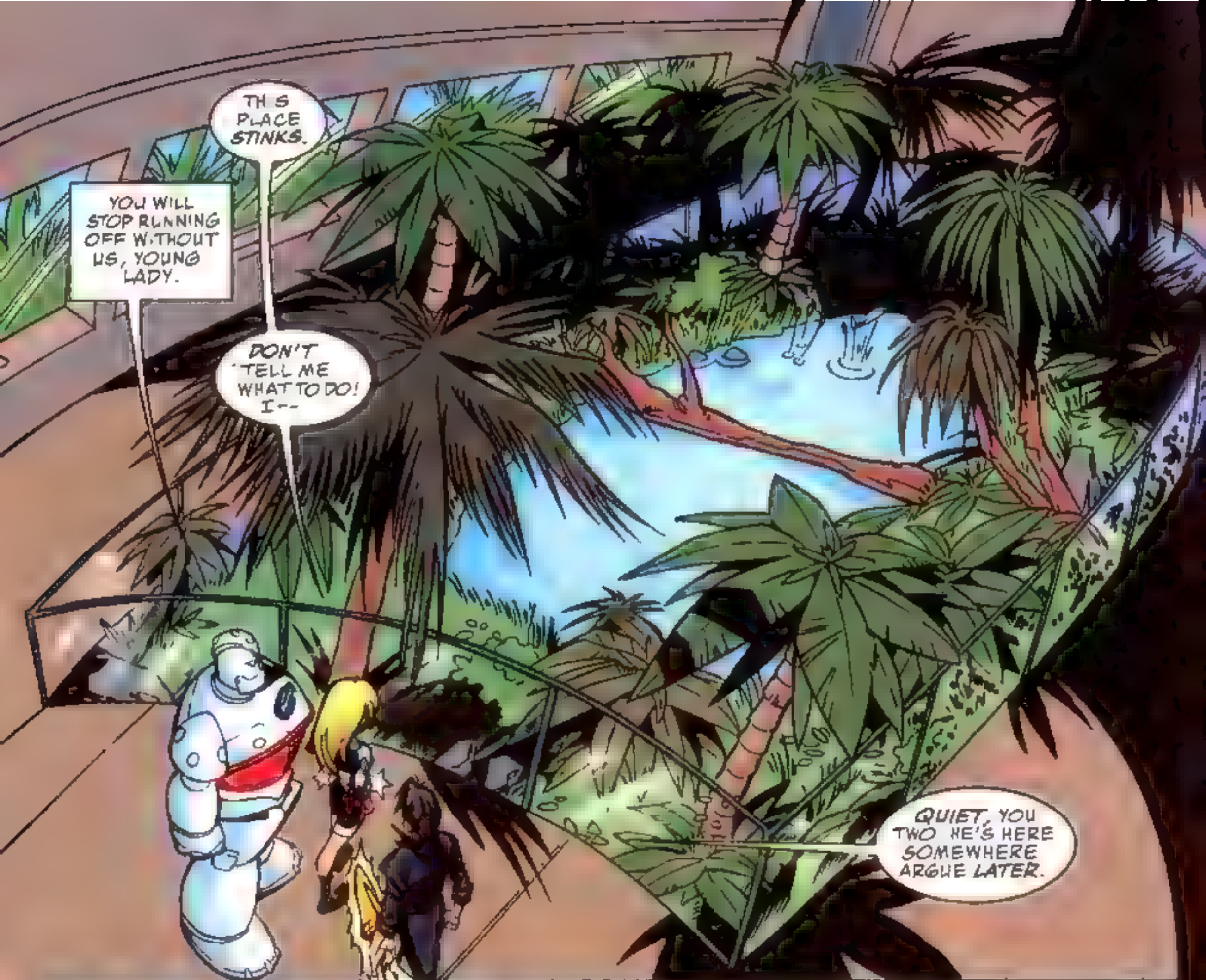




HAVEN'T
USED THIS
SINCE I FIRST
JOINED THE
JSA.

FEELS
PRETTY
GOOD.

WHOOOSH



YOU WILL
STOP RUNNING
OFF WITHOUT
US, YOUNG
LADY.

THIS
PLACE
STINKS.

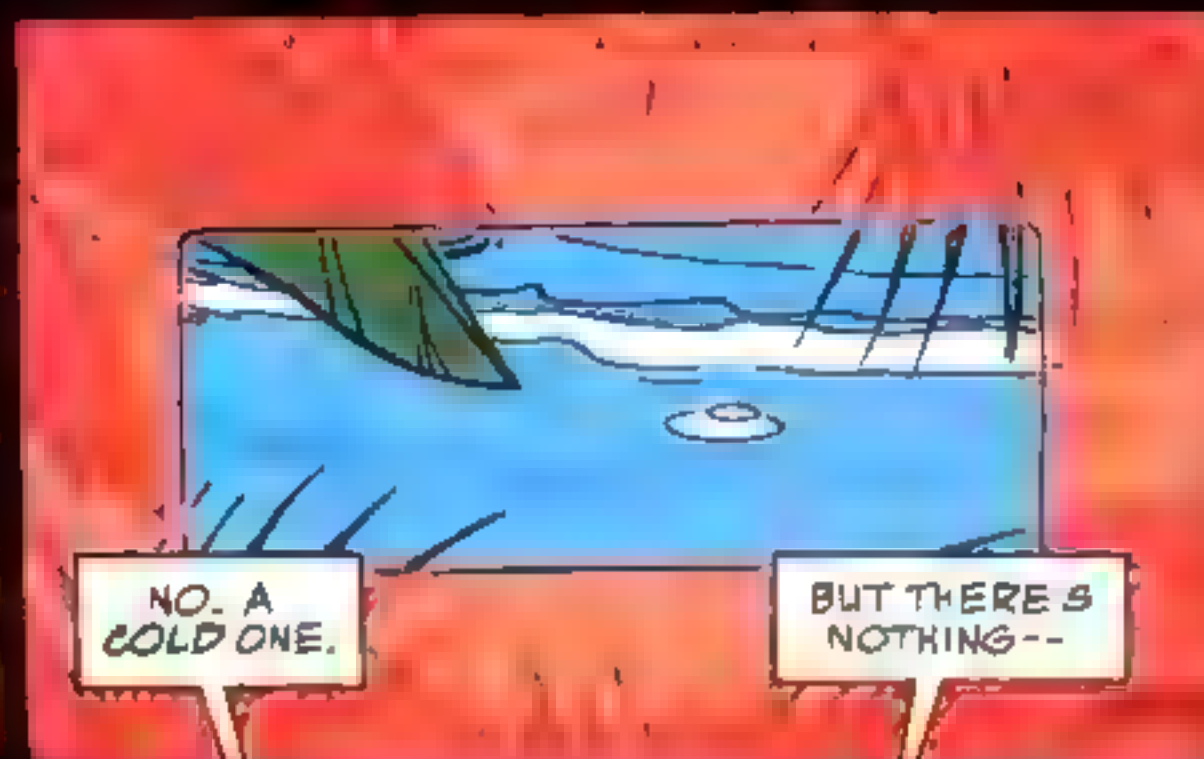
DON'T
TELL ME
WHAT TO DO!
I--

QUIET, YOU
TWO HE'S HERE
SOMEWHERE
ARGUE LATER.

STR.I.P.E.,
GO TO SEARCH
MODE.

VISION
ADJUSTED.

WHAT ARE
YOU GONNA
LOOK FOR?
A HEAT
SIGNATURE?



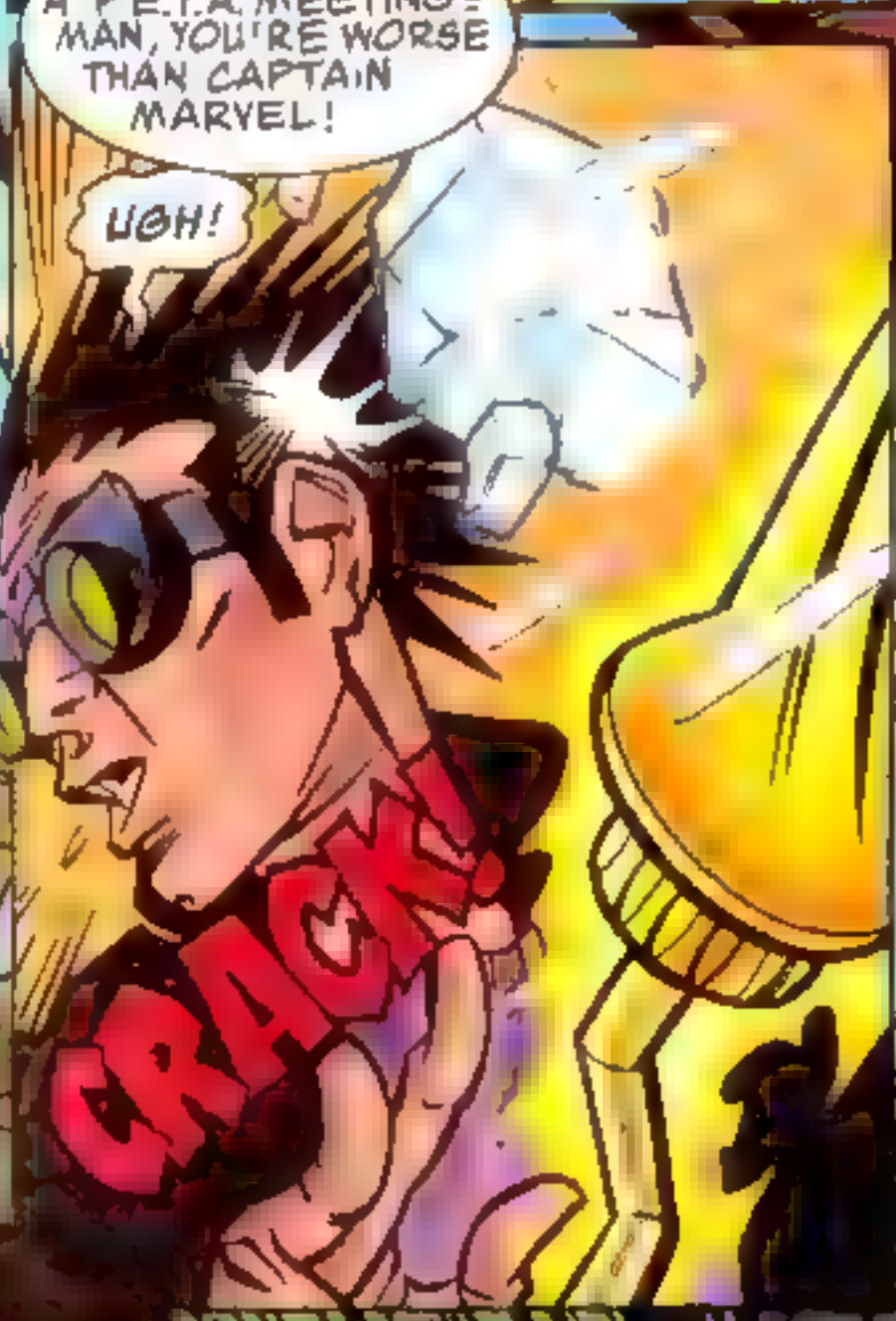
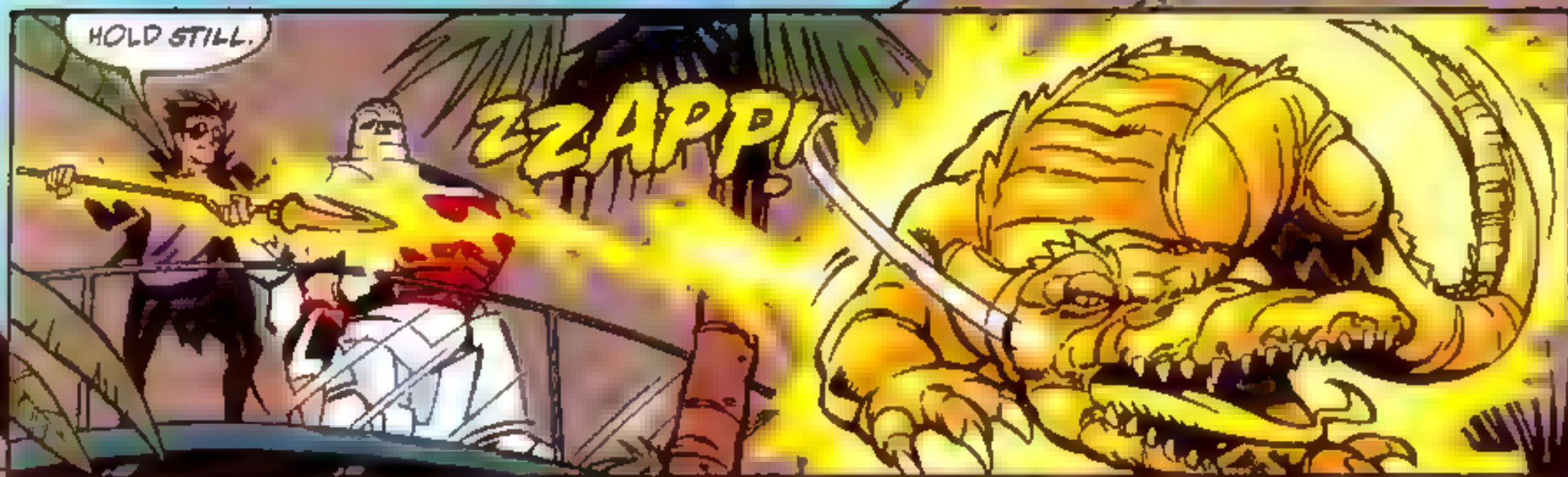
NO. A
COLD ONE.

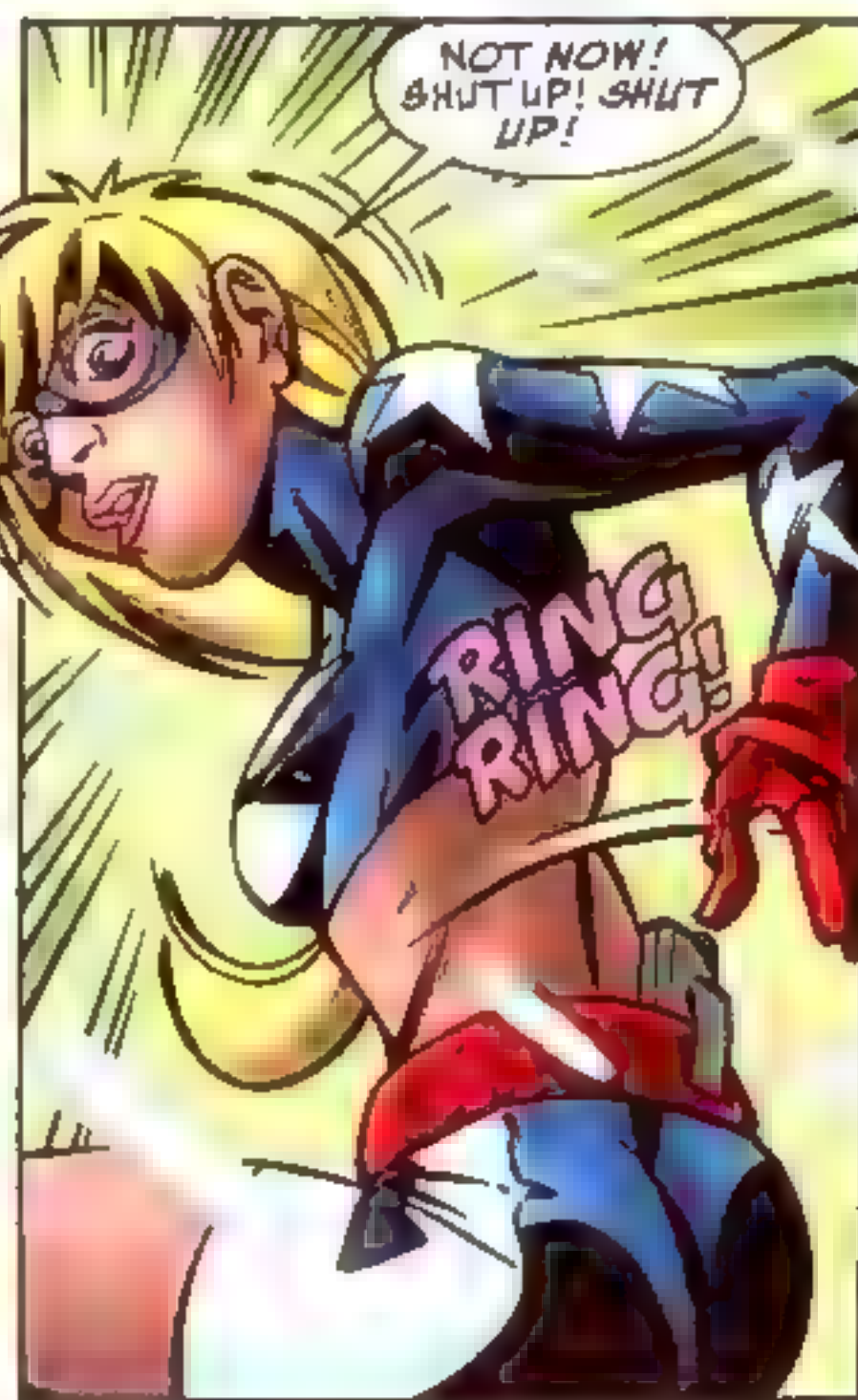
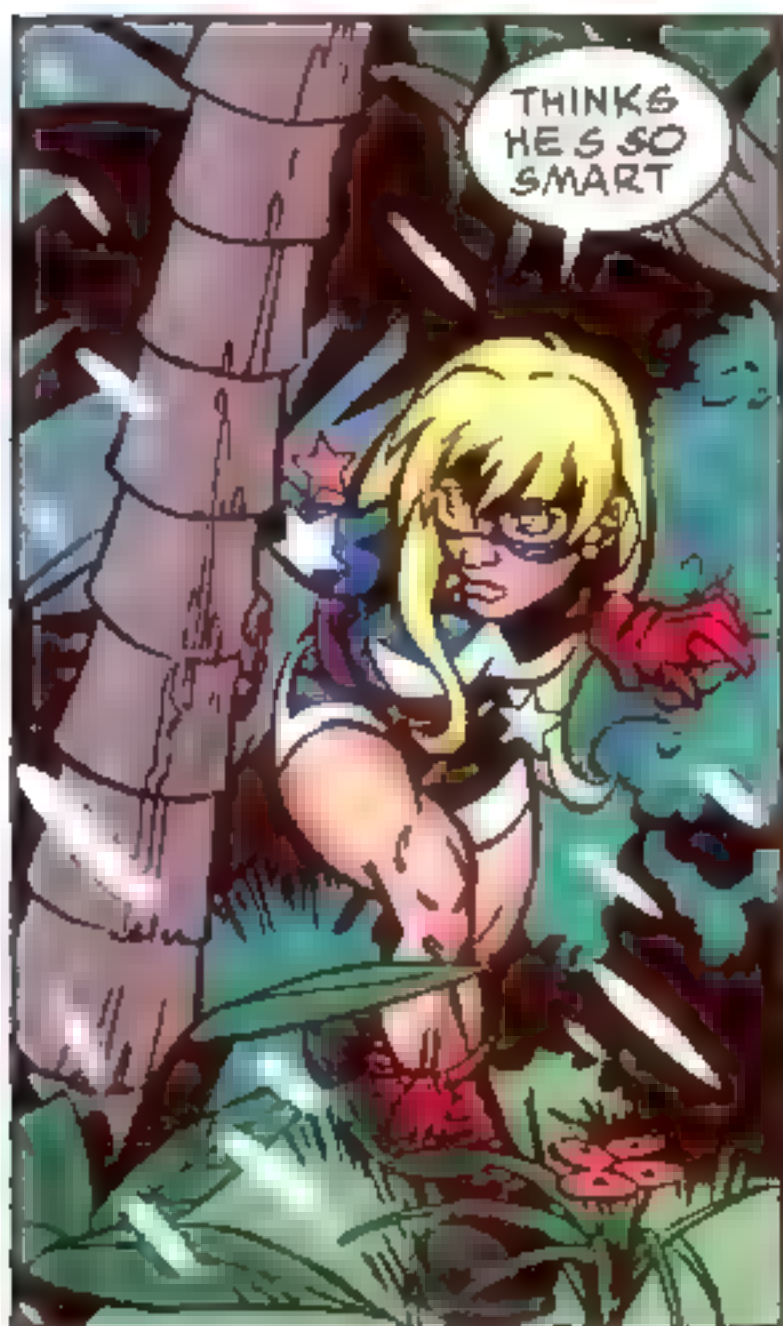
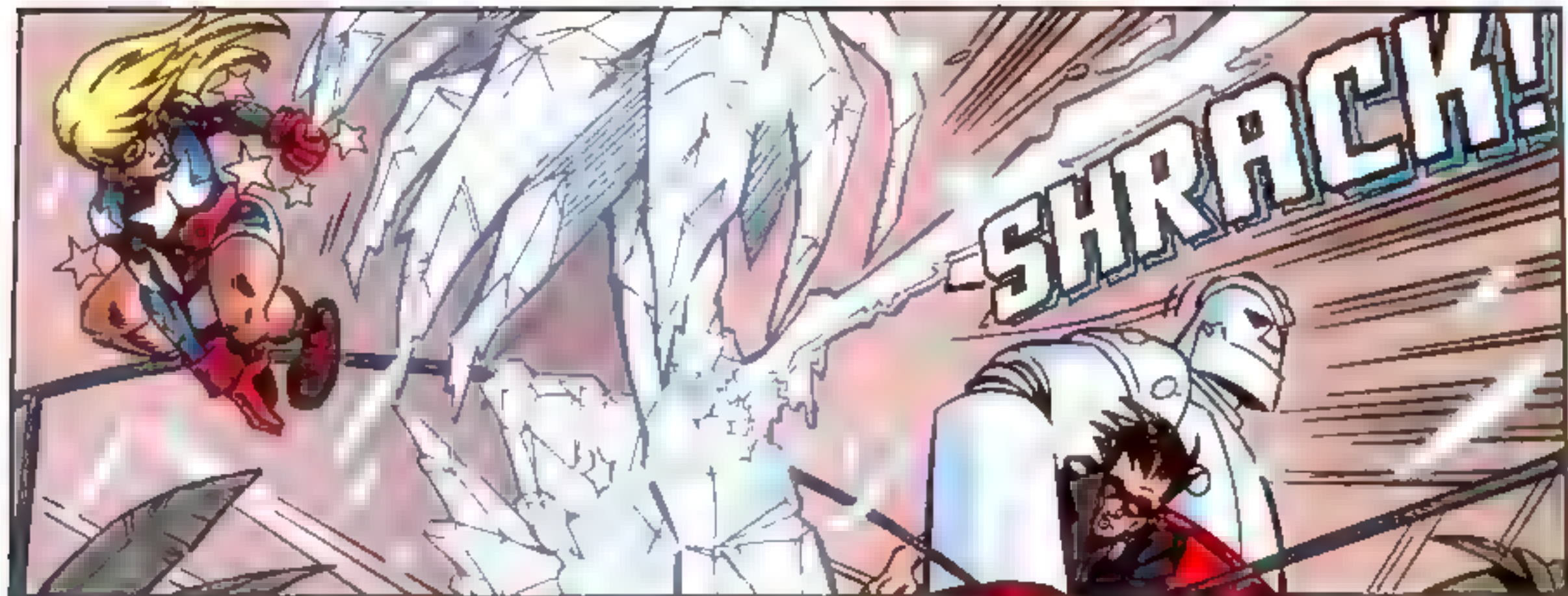
BUT THERE'S
NOTHING--

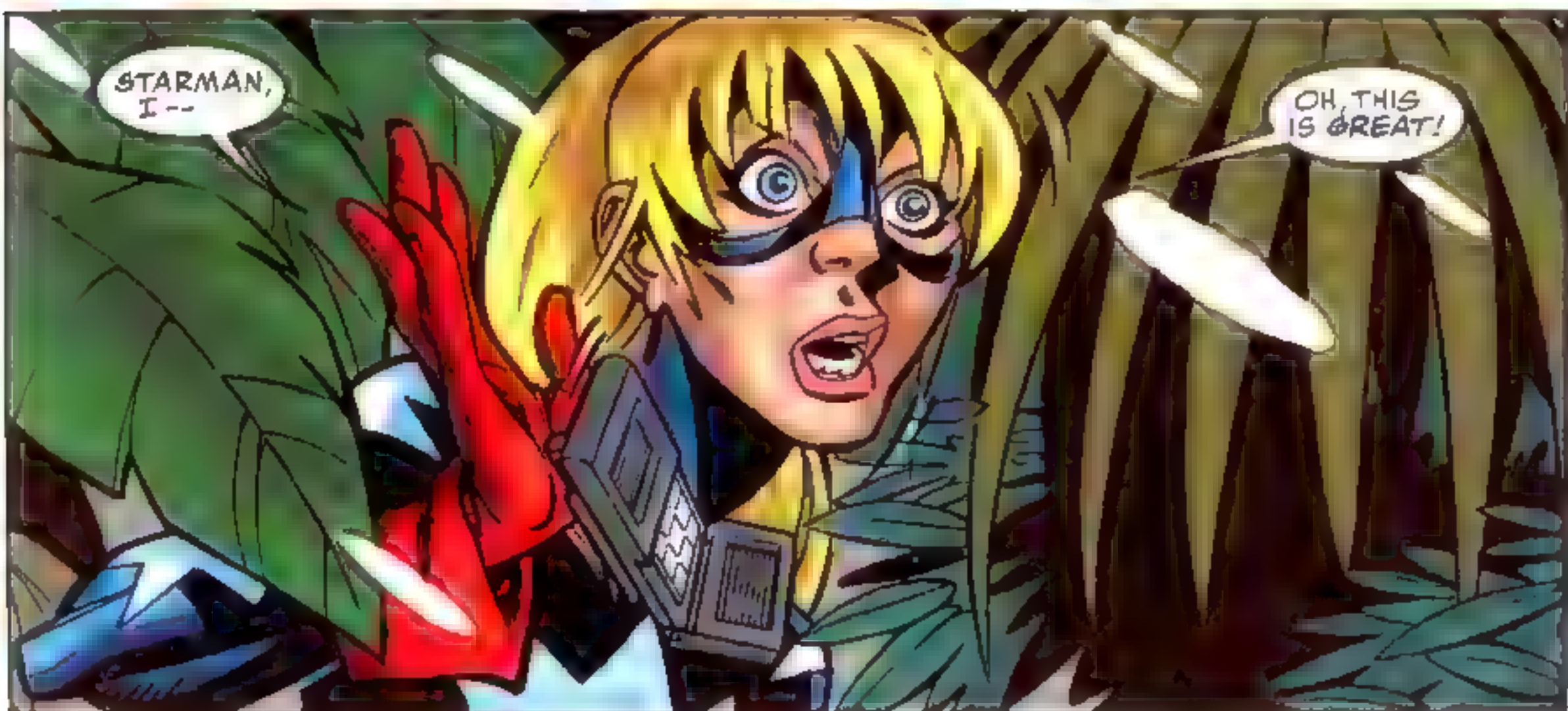
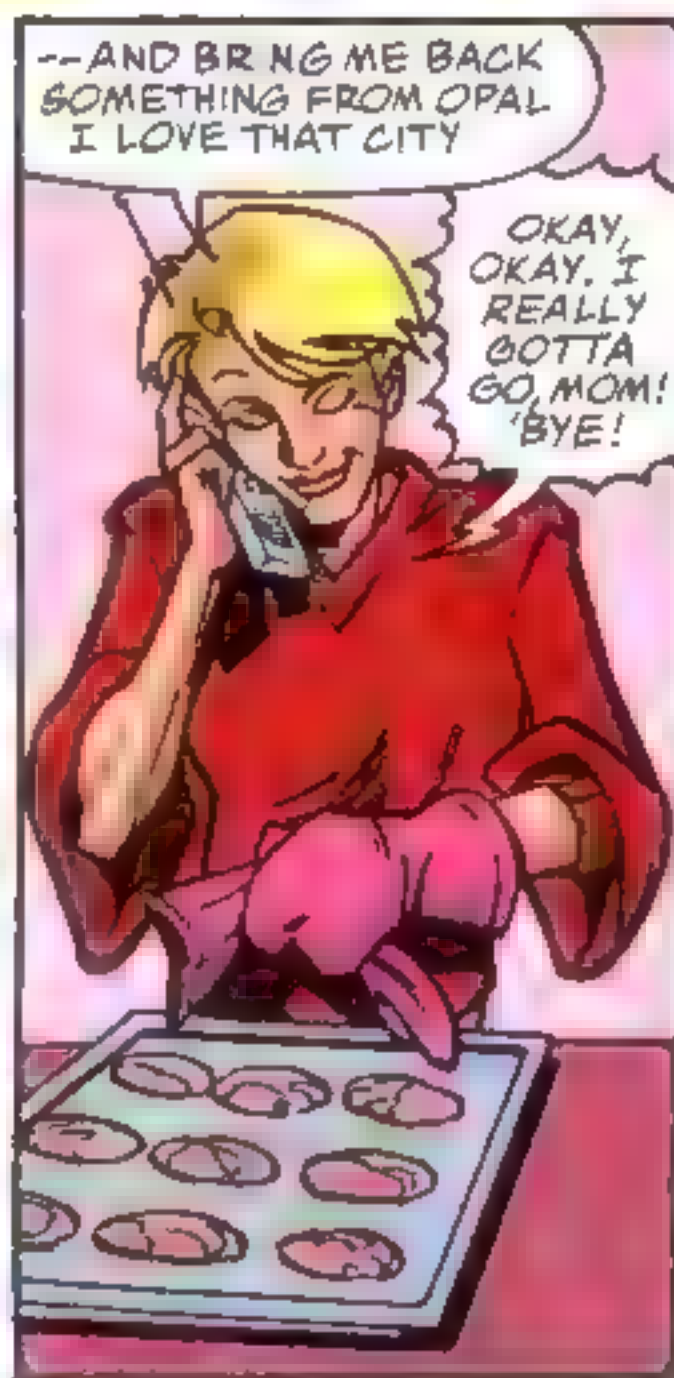


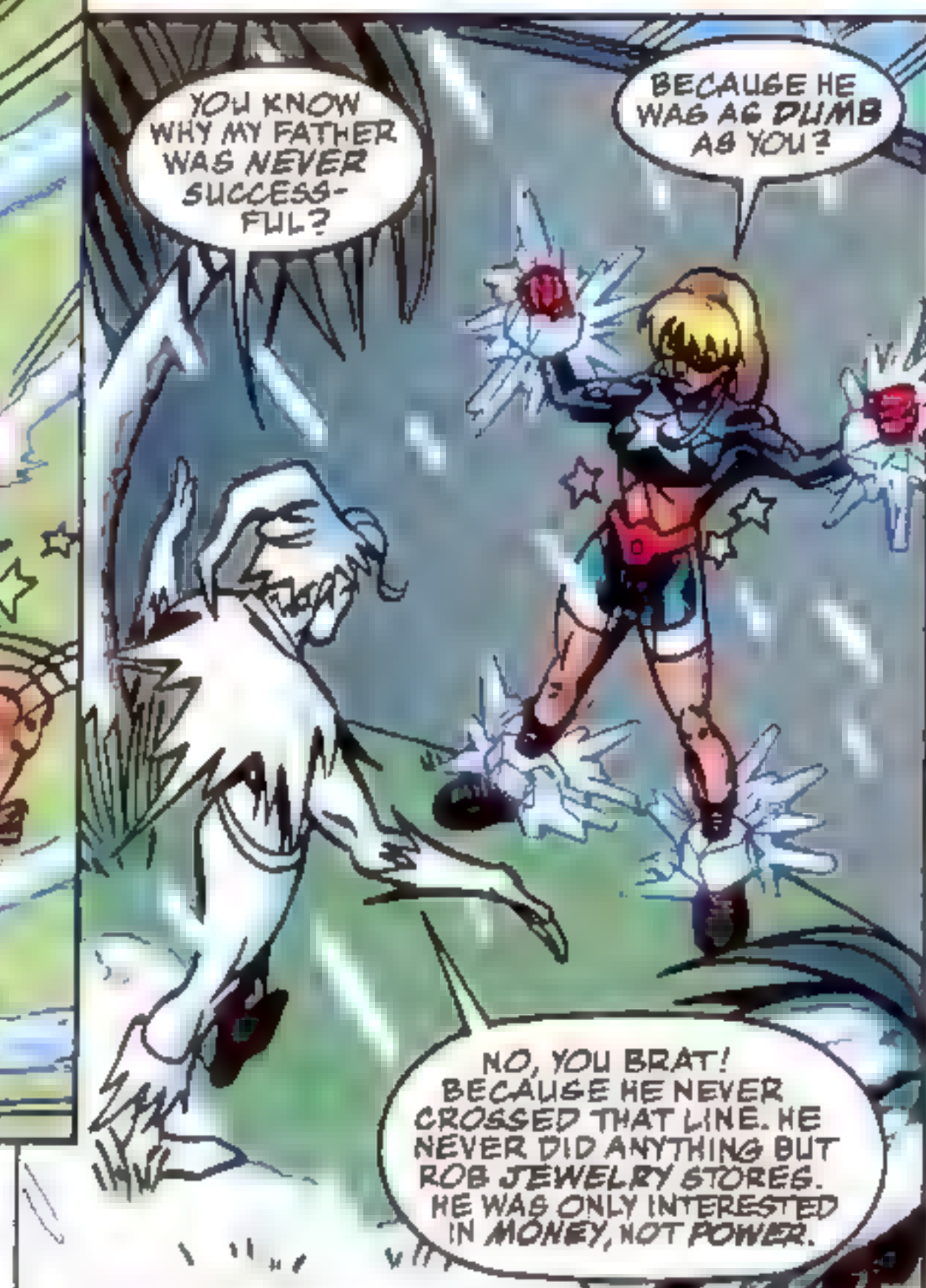
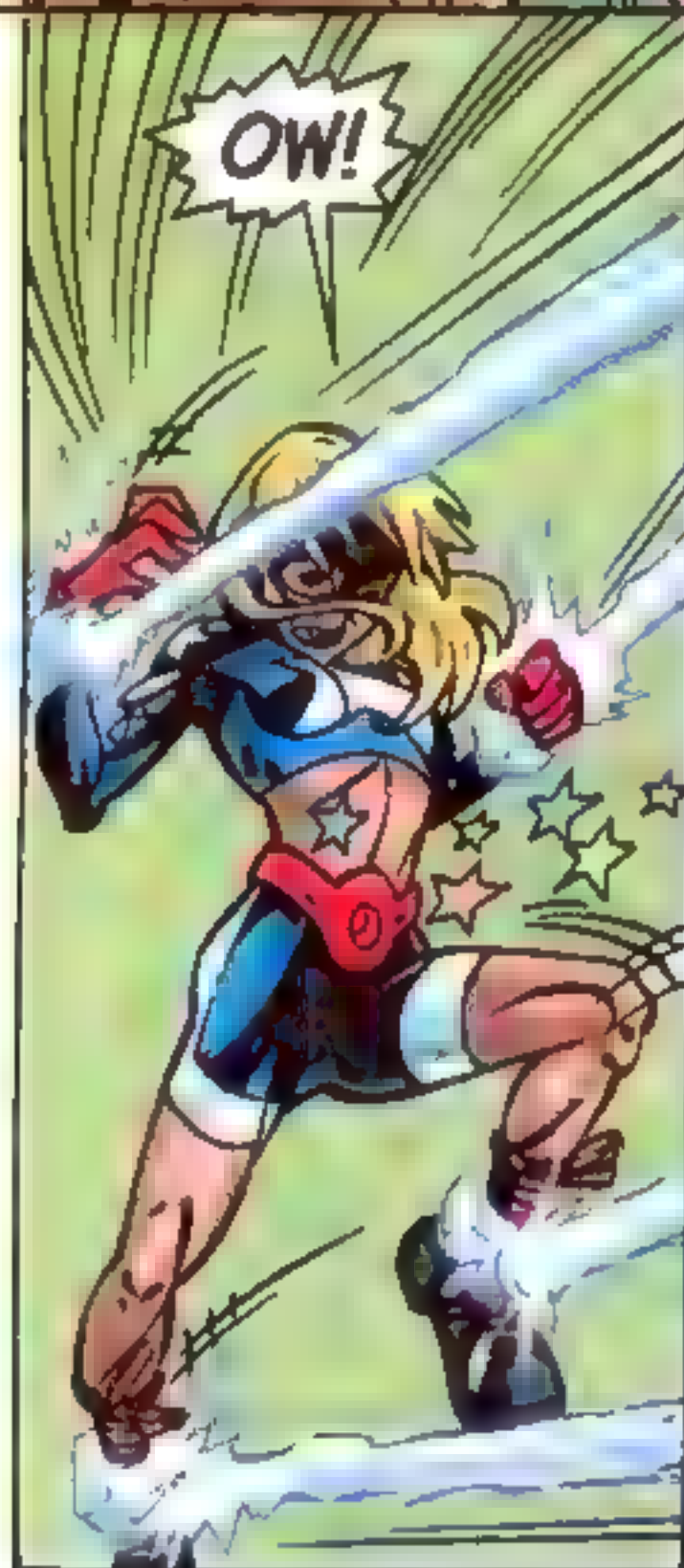
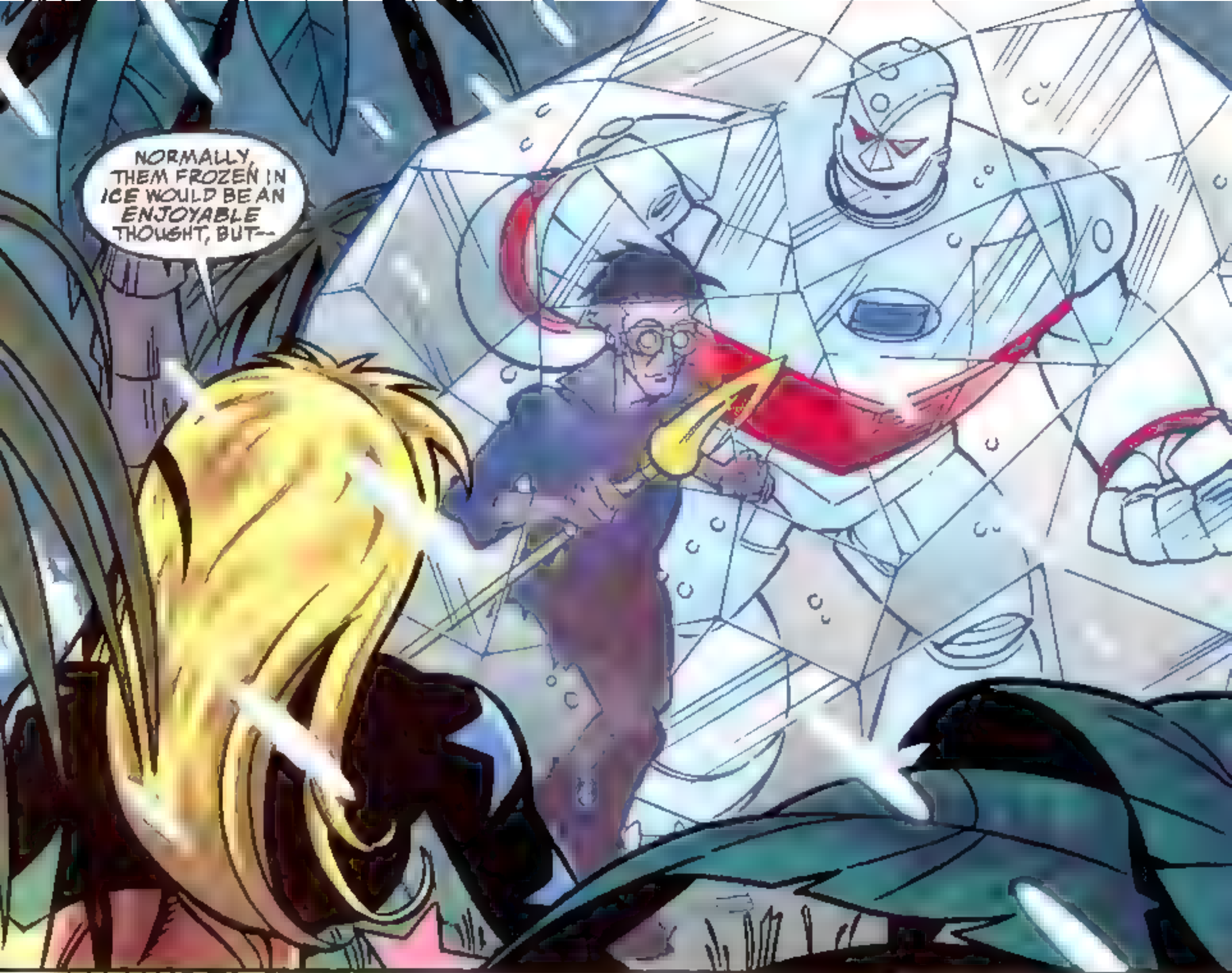
ALERT!
ATTACK IN
PROGRESS!

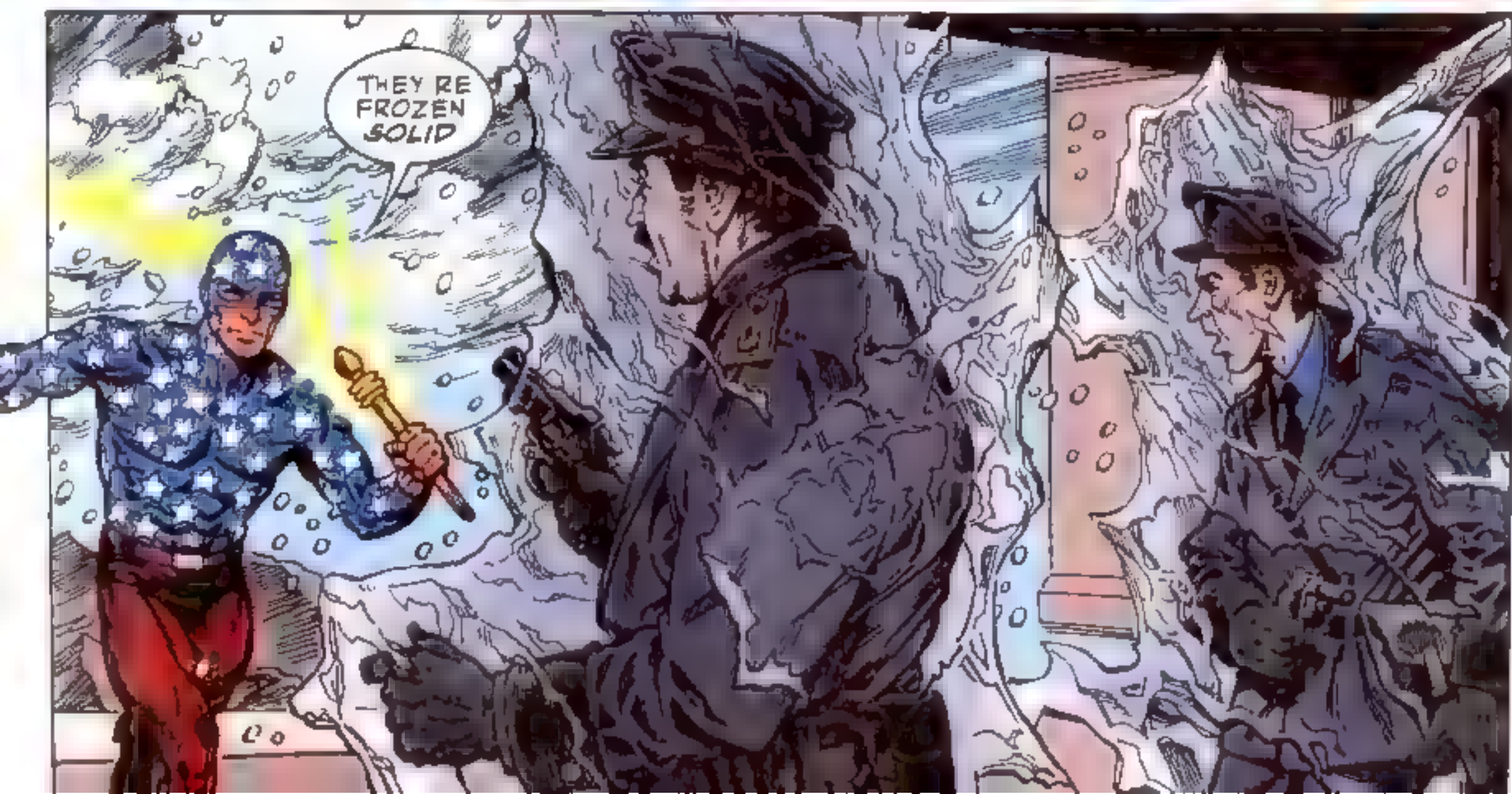
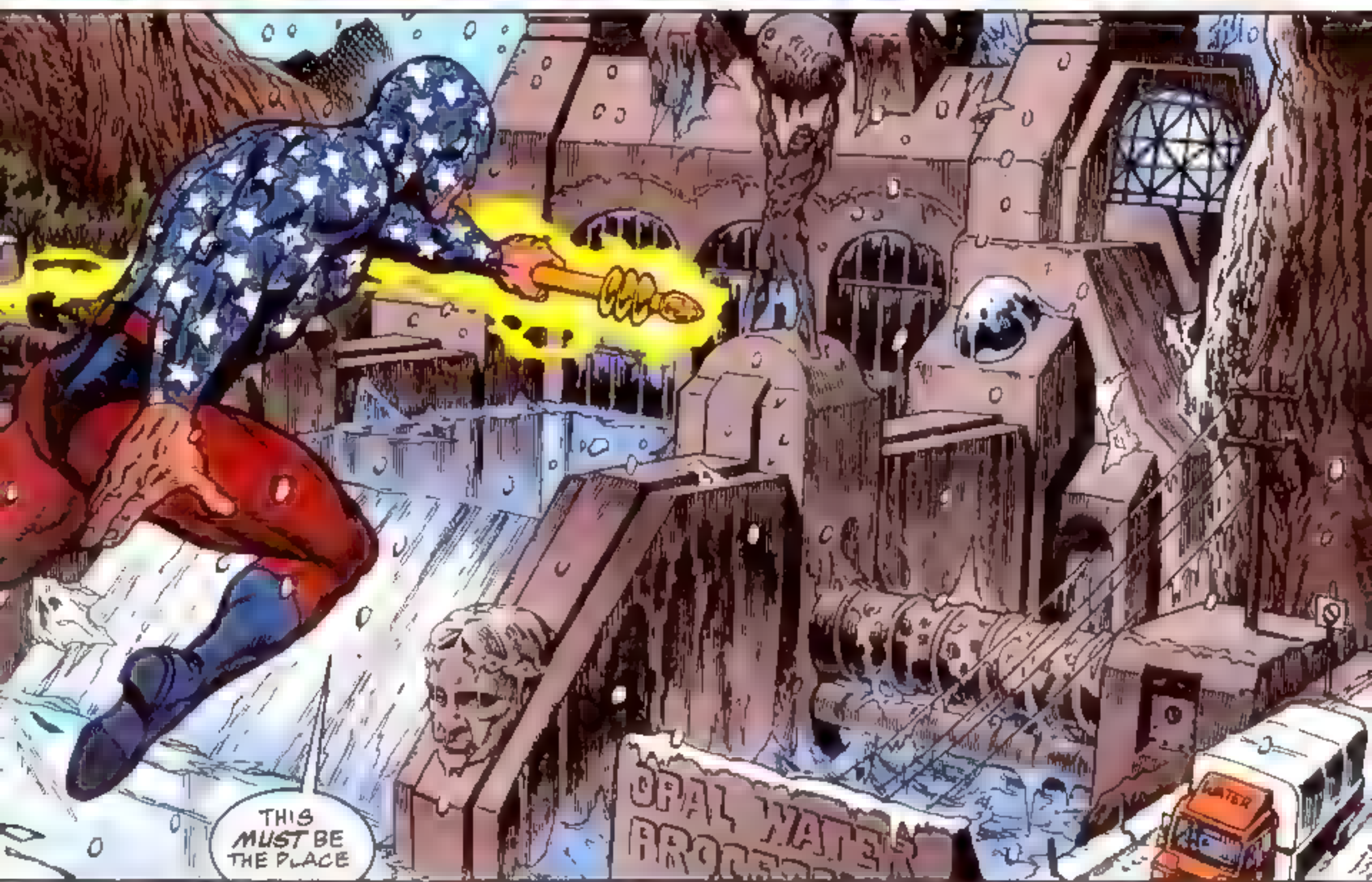
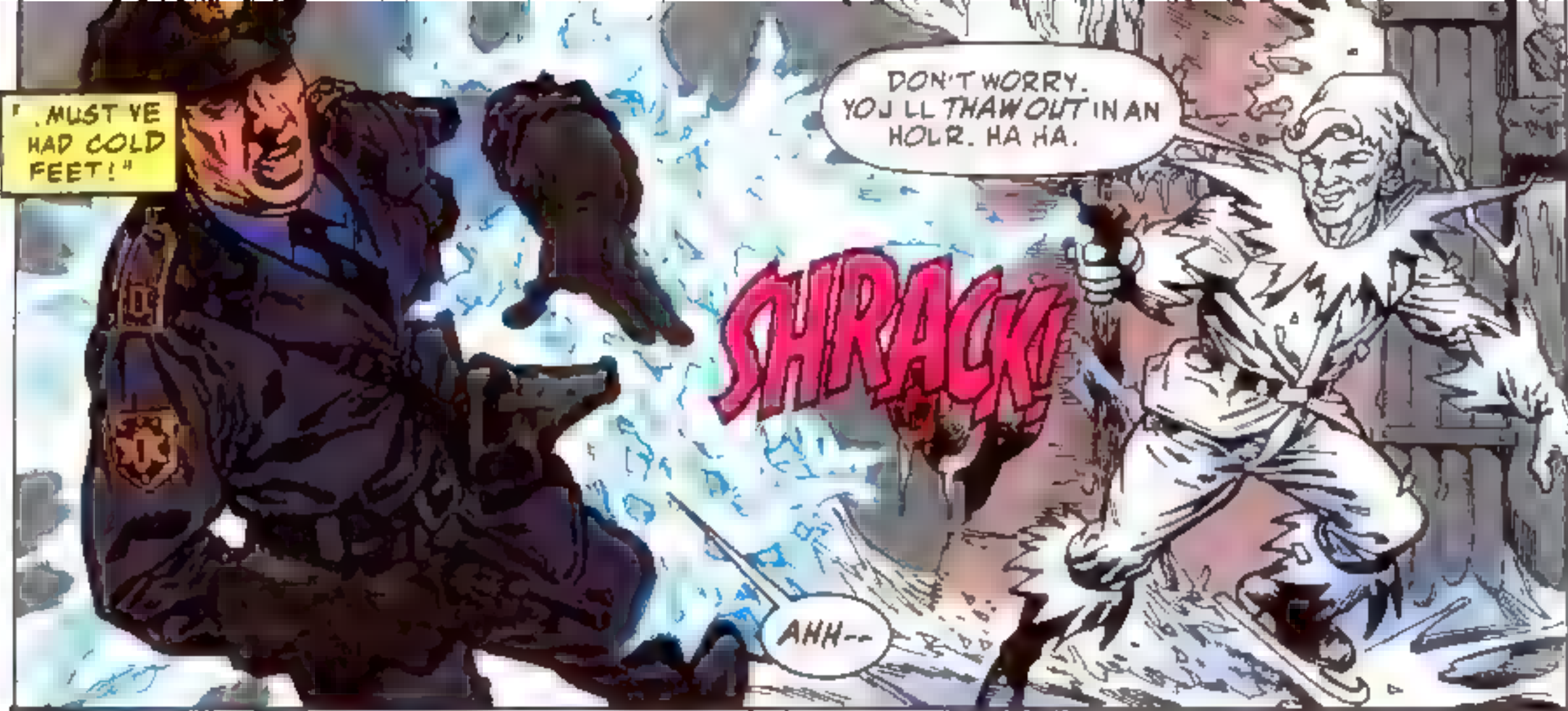
AH!

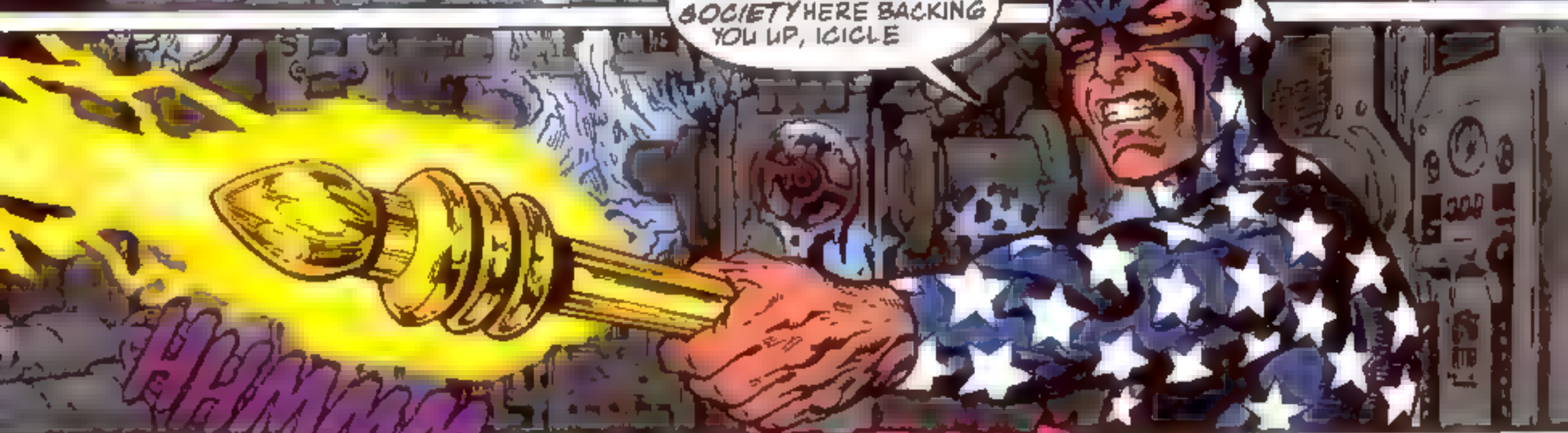
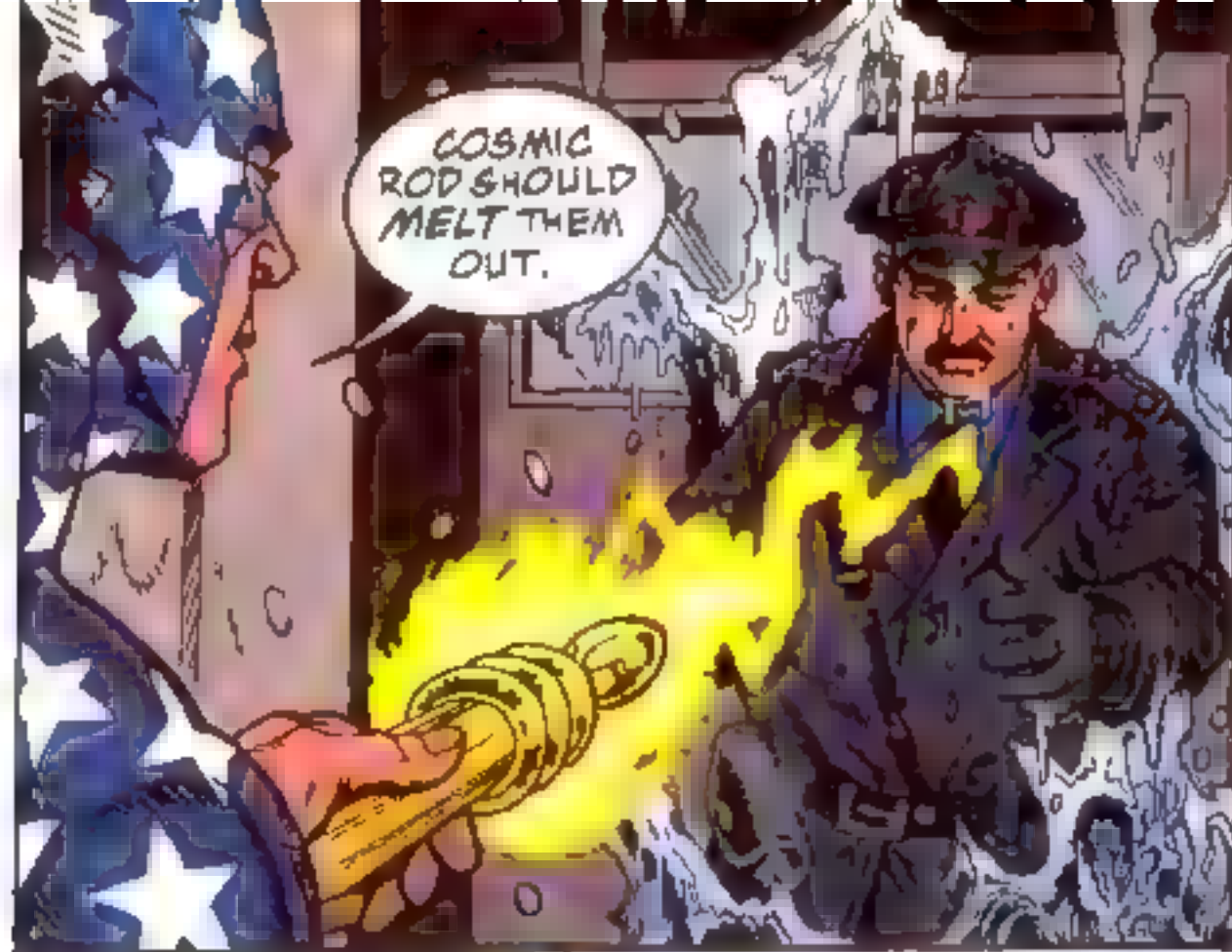


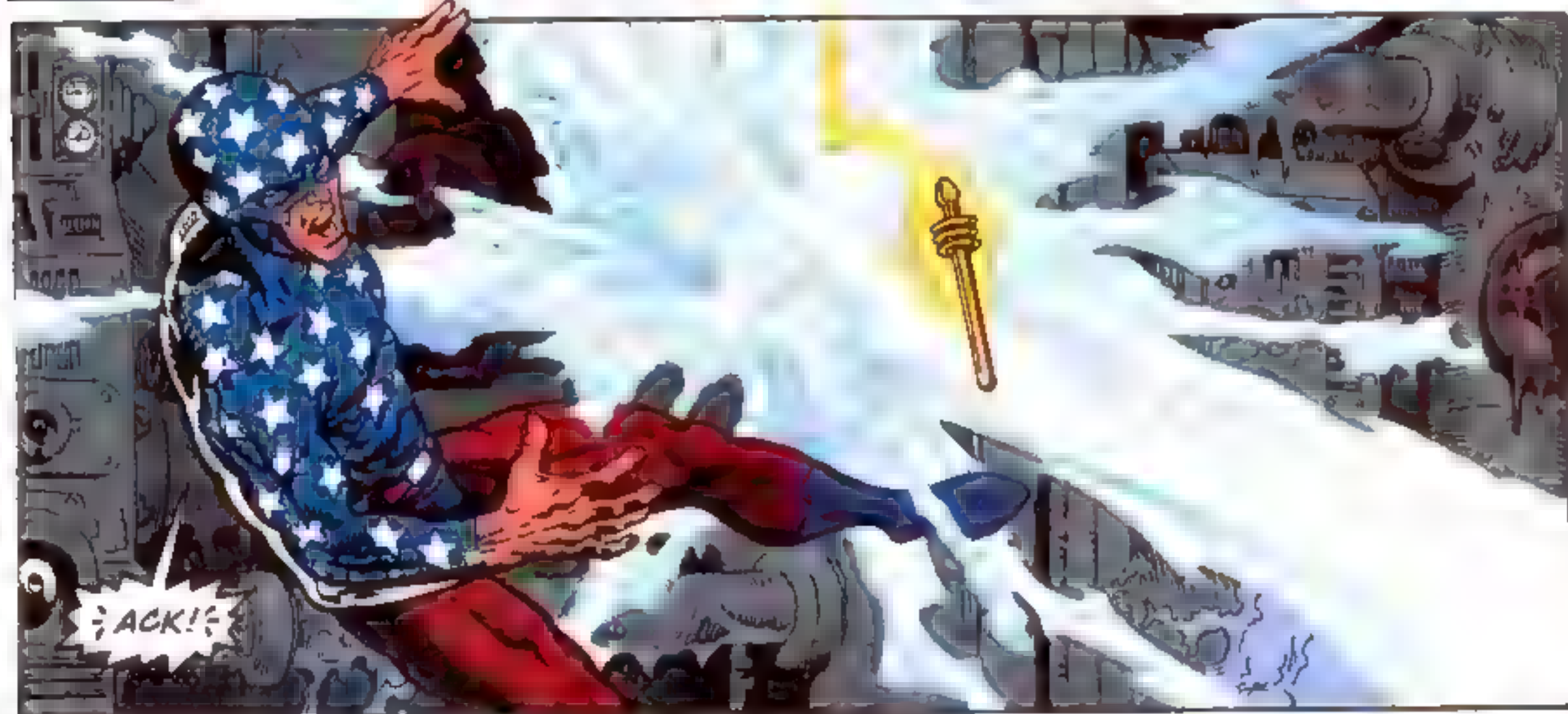


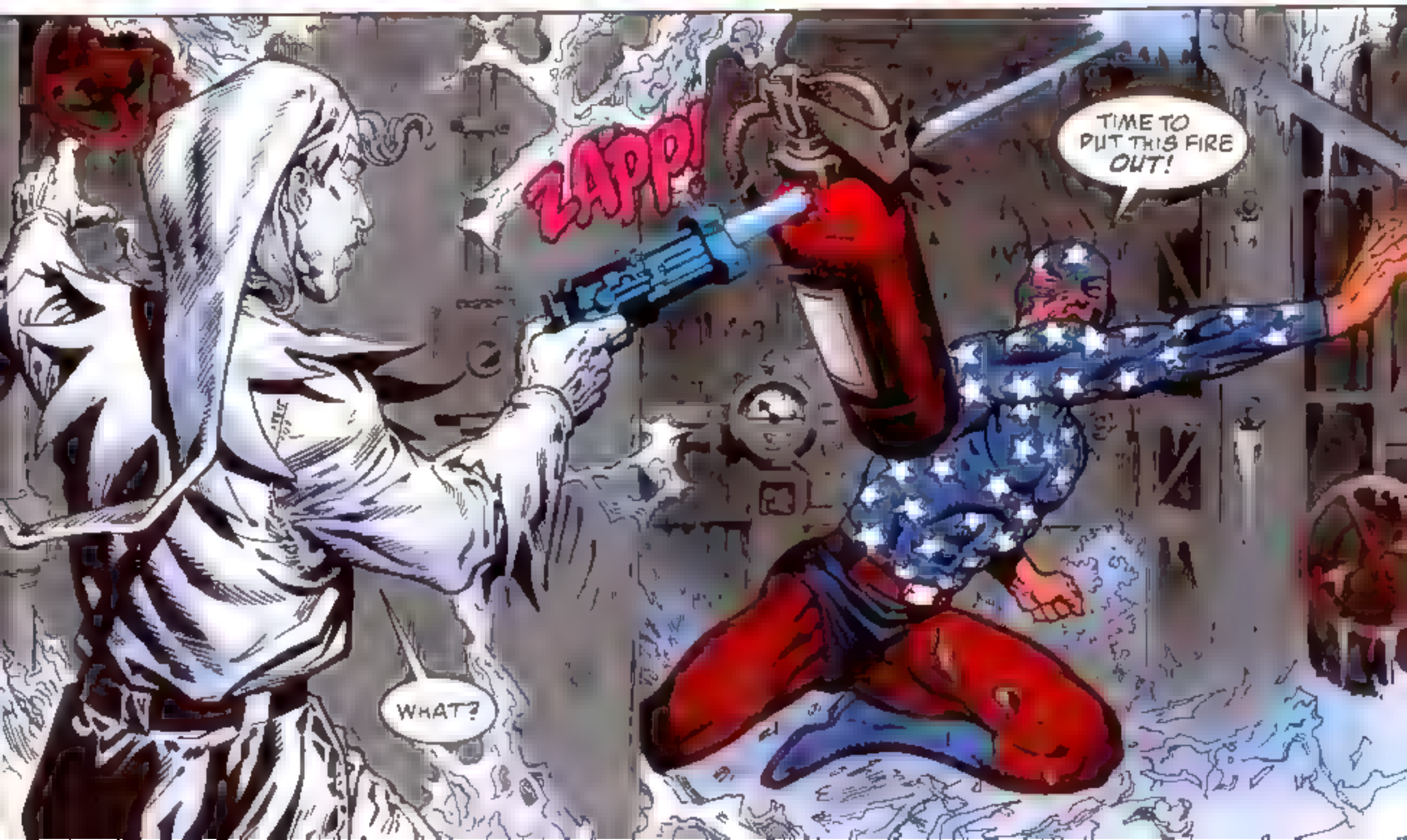
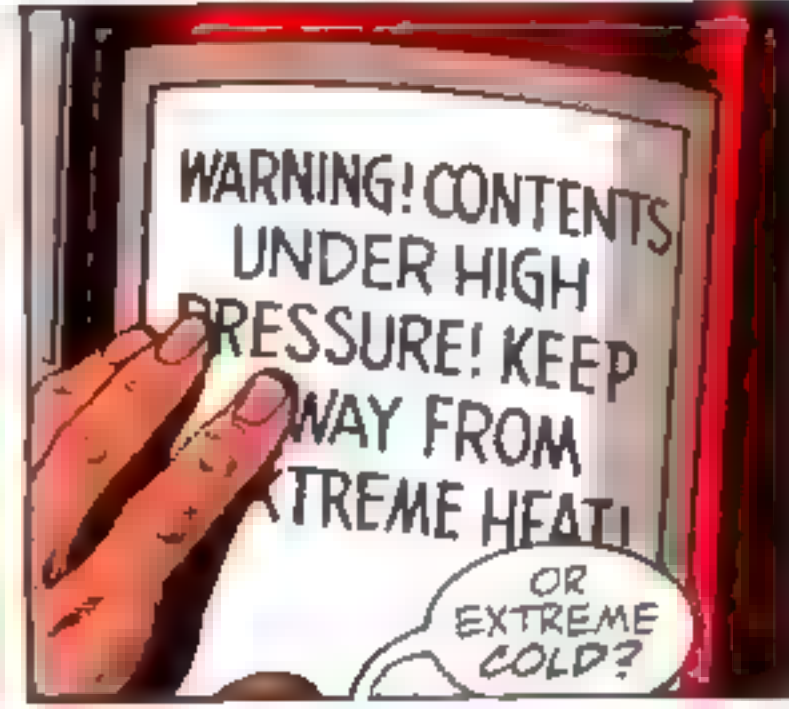
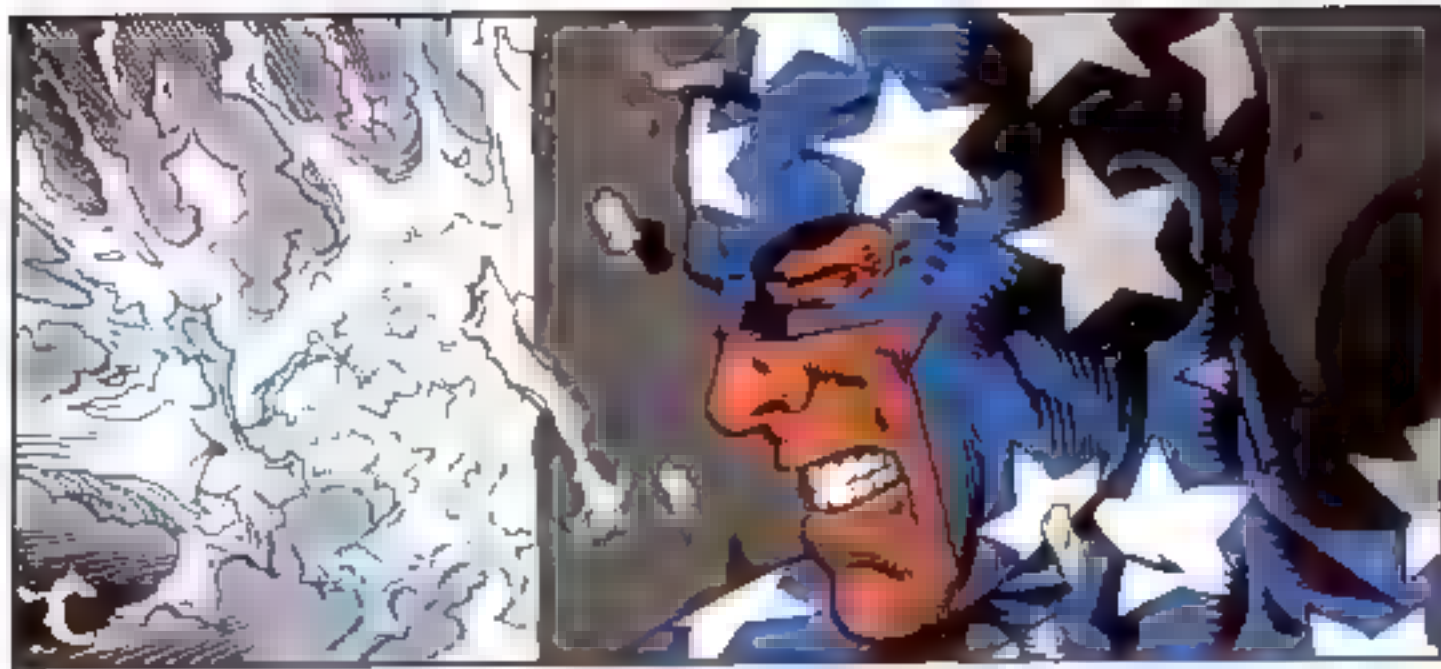


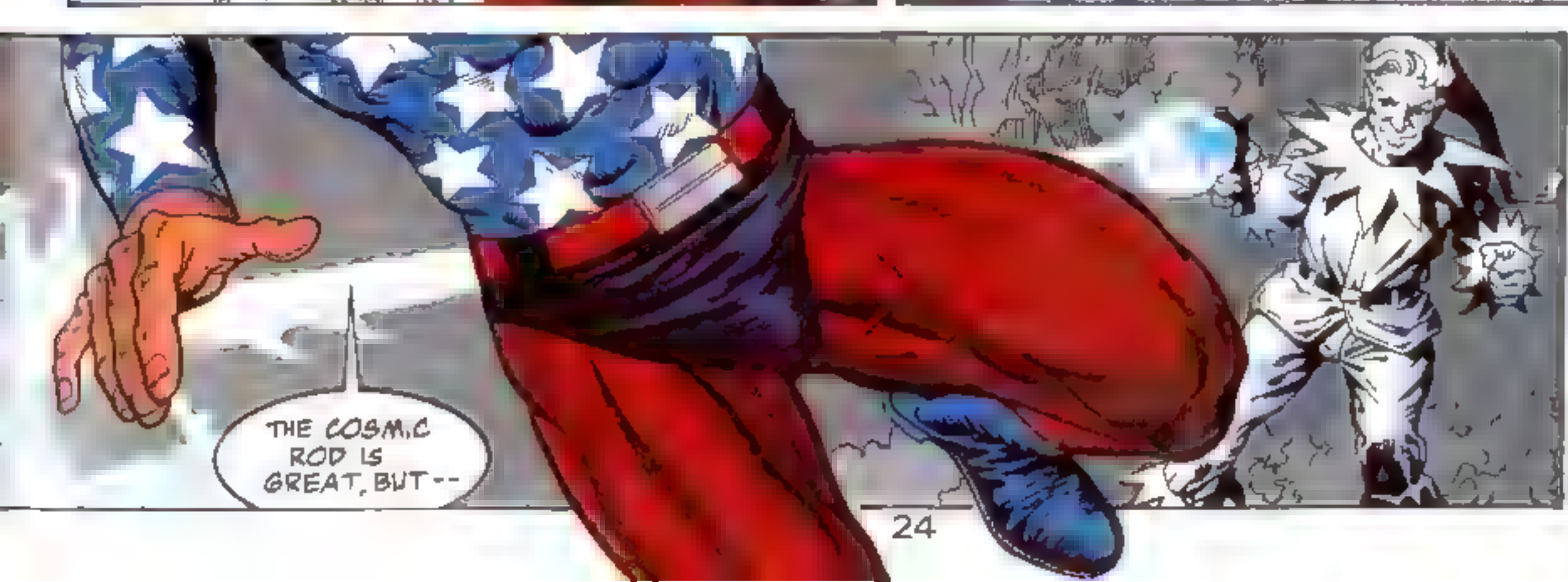












"--I WISH I
HAD MY BELT!"

I WAS WITH
INJUSTICE UNLIMITED
WHEN MY FELLOW
MEMBER HARLEYQUIN
ORCHESTRATED THE MUR-
DER OF THE ORIGINAL STAR
SPANGLED KID. IT WAS
SO MUCH FUN. WE ALL GOT
PRETTY DRUNK THAT
NIGHT.

SO YOU'RE
A JERK AND
AN ALCOHOLIC.

MY FATHER
WAS DEFEATED BY
HEROES LIKE YOU--
OVER AND OVER.

BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE THE
GUILE AND AGGRESSION
I HAVE.

AND THANKS TO
DAD'S PROLONGED
EXPOSURE TO THAT
FREEZE GUN OF
HIS I HAVE THE
NATURAL ABILITY
TO GENERATE
ICE

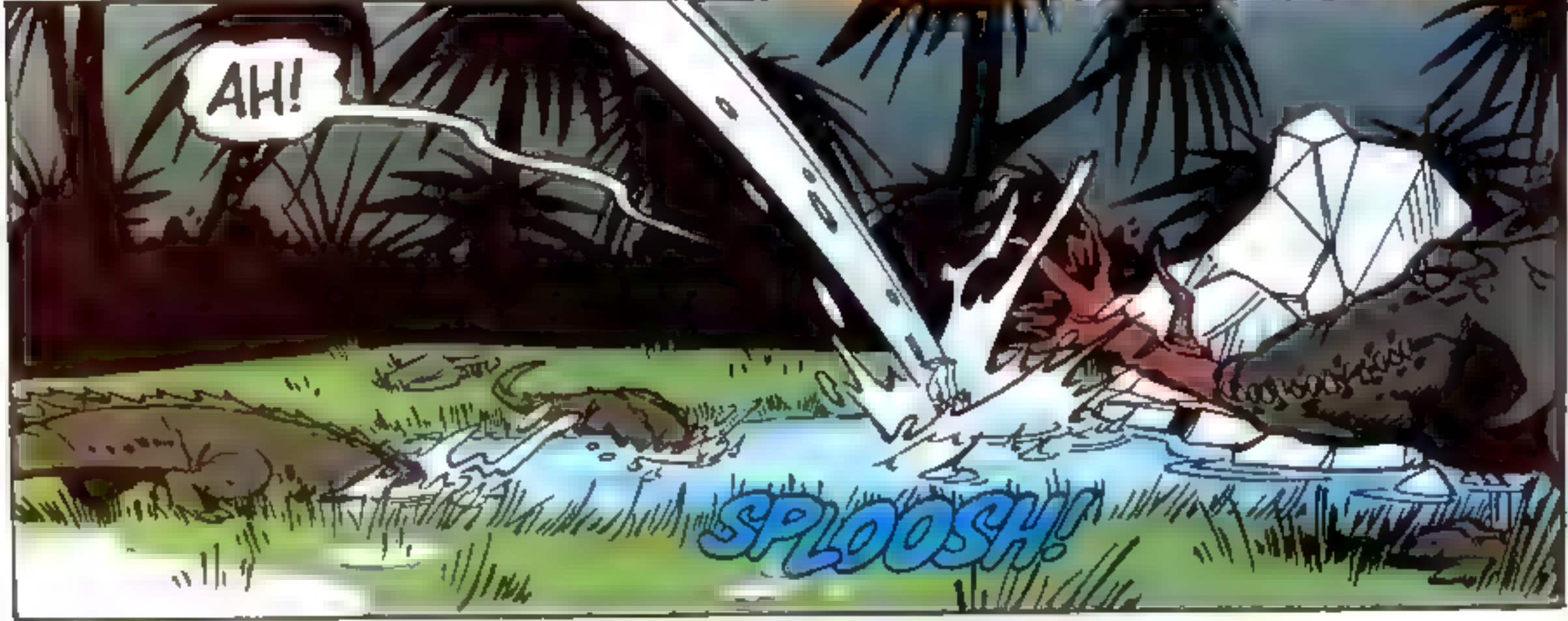
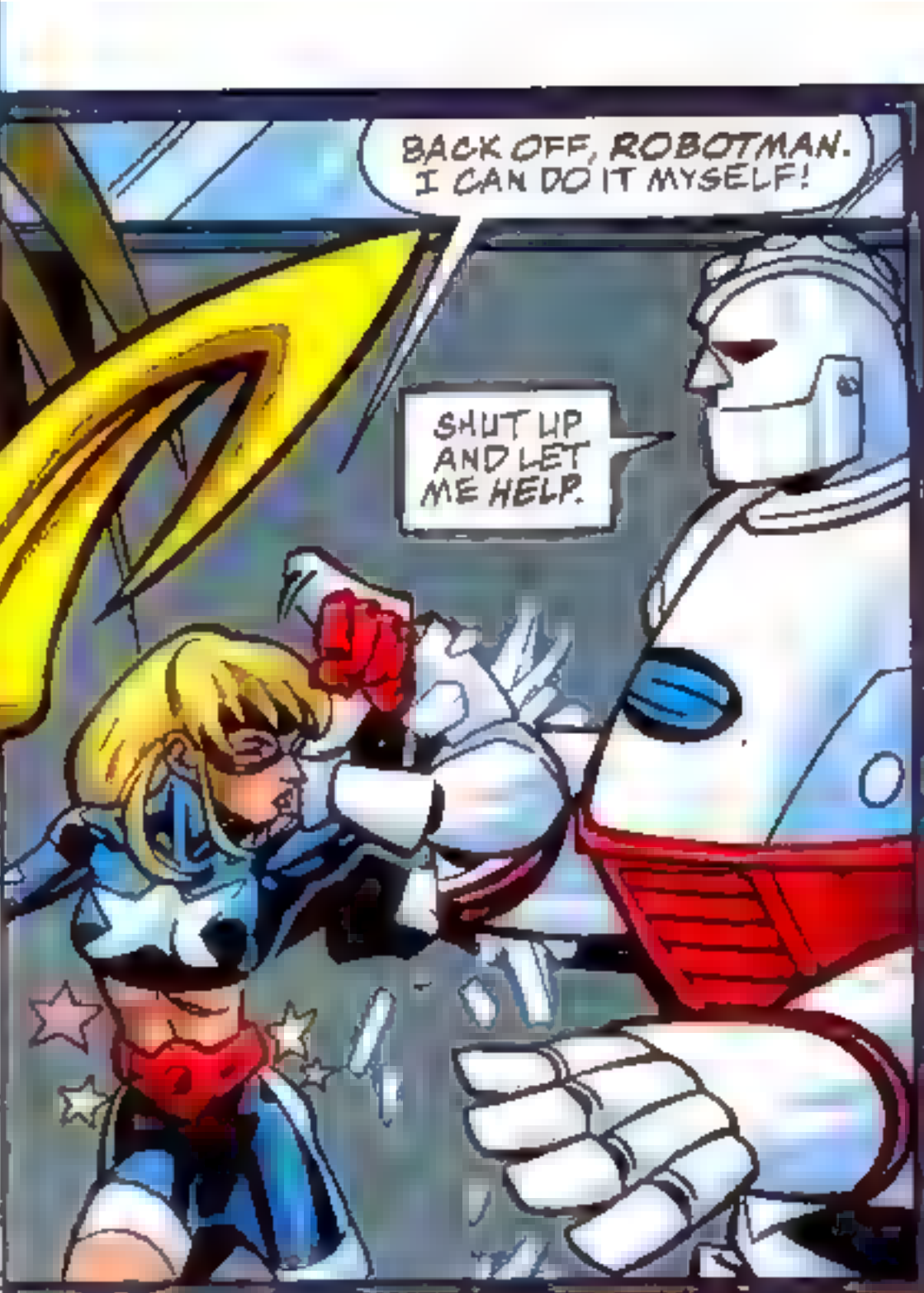
TO FREEZE
MOLECULES IN
THE AIR--

--OR THE
BLOOD IN
YOUR BODY.

AAAA!

KRACK!

THIS
IS FOR
THE FIRST
KID.





KRAASH

UHH!



YEAH, THIS IS BILLY O'DARE. YOU HEARD ME, CANCEL BACKUP. I REPEAT CANCEL BACKUP. OVER.



OH, IT'S YOU. THOUGHT STARMAN WAS TAKING CARE OF THIS.

I WAS IN THE AREA THOUGHT I'D HELP OUT.



I HAVE MY REVENGE

OUT COLD.

THAT'S THE WAY WE LIKE 'EM THANKS, K.D.



WE CAN ALWAYS USE ANOTHER HERO IN OPAL.



ANYTIME.



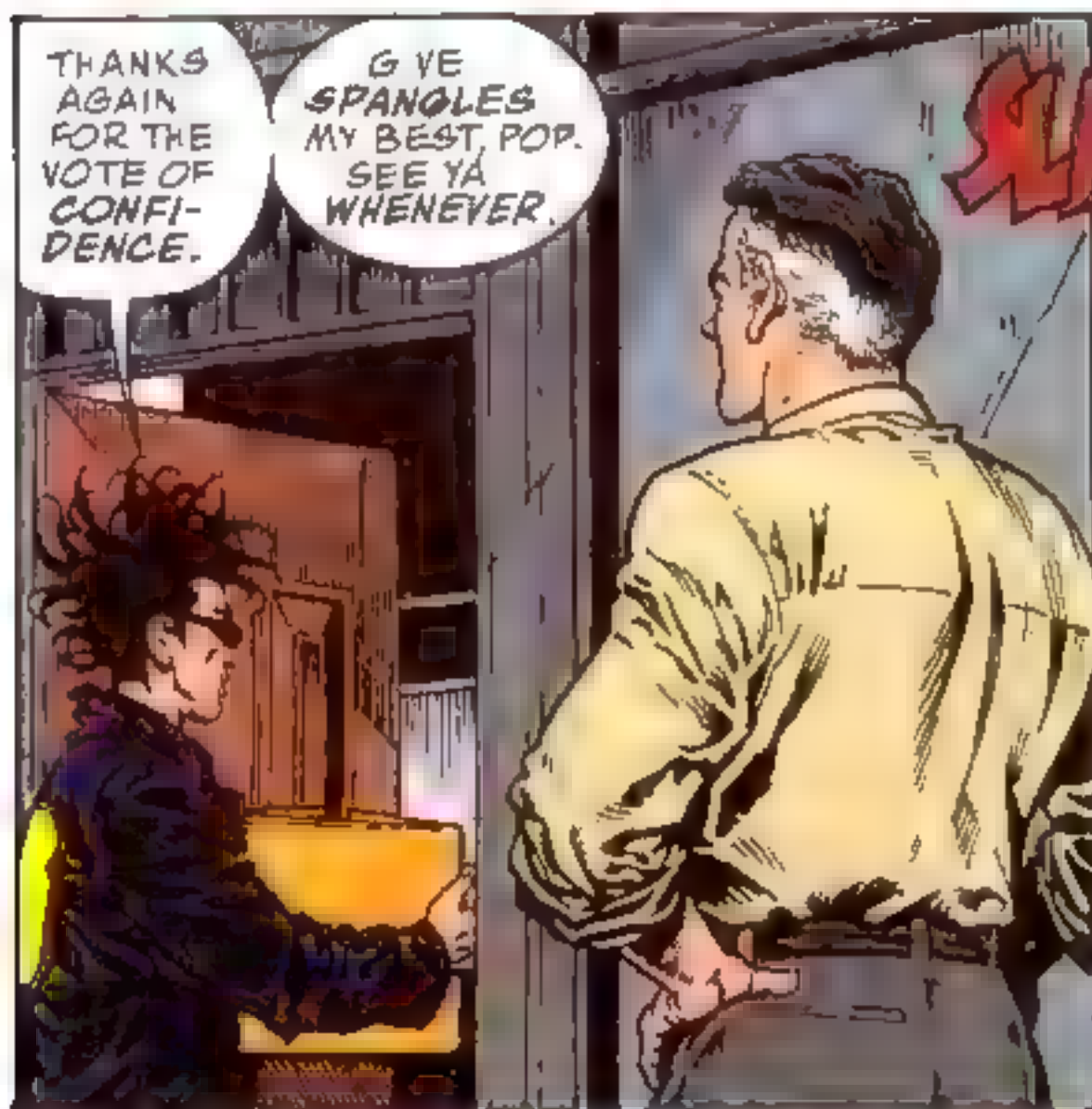
YOU REALLY EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT?

I DON'T CARE IF YOU BELIEVE IT. I'M SELLING THIS STUFF FOR CASH TO BUY A CAR. A CAR, ALL RIGHT?

SOME PEOPLE WILL PAY ME GOOD MONEY FOR...



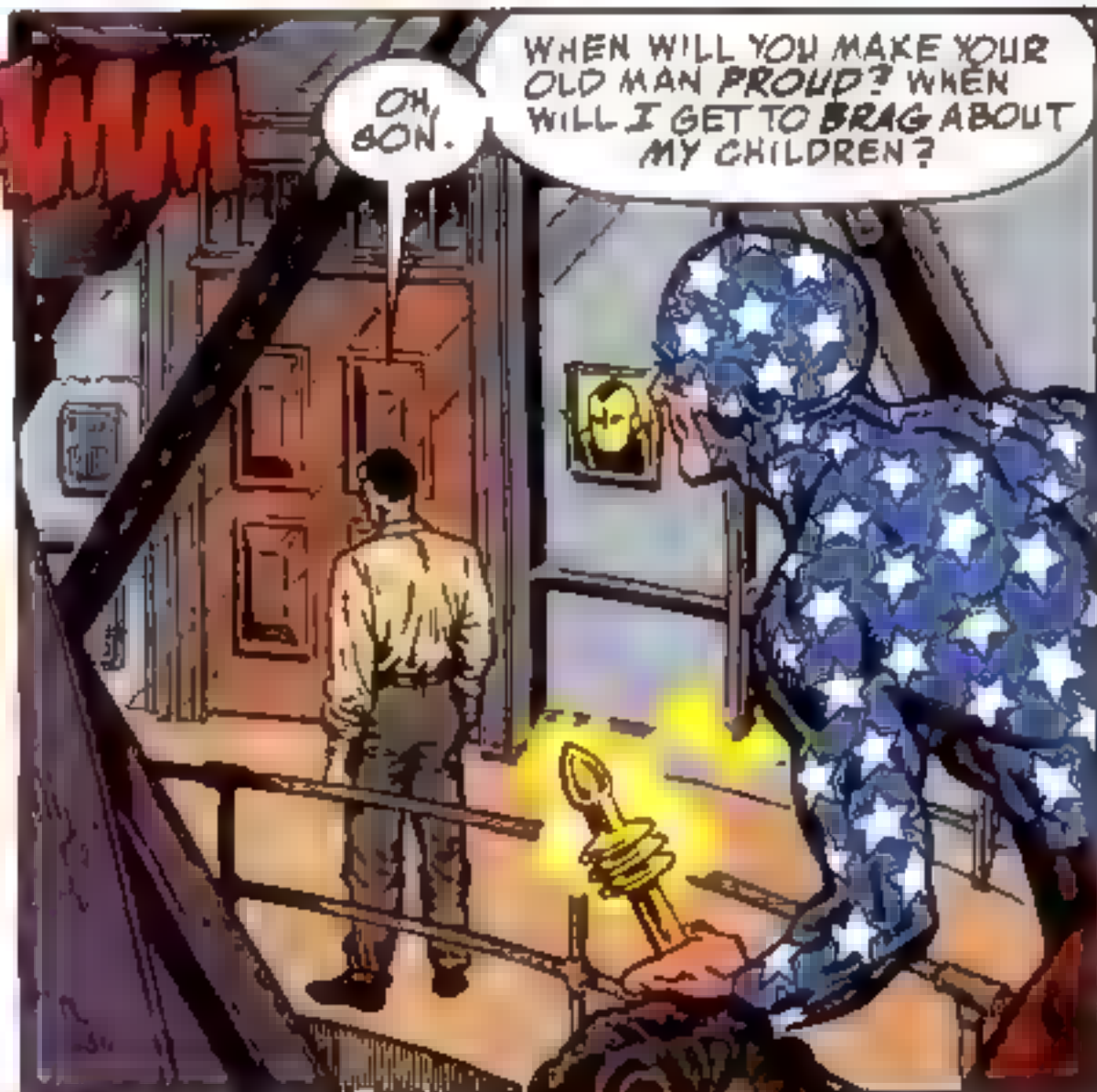
...STUFF I DON'T WANT.



THANKS AGAIN FOR THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE.

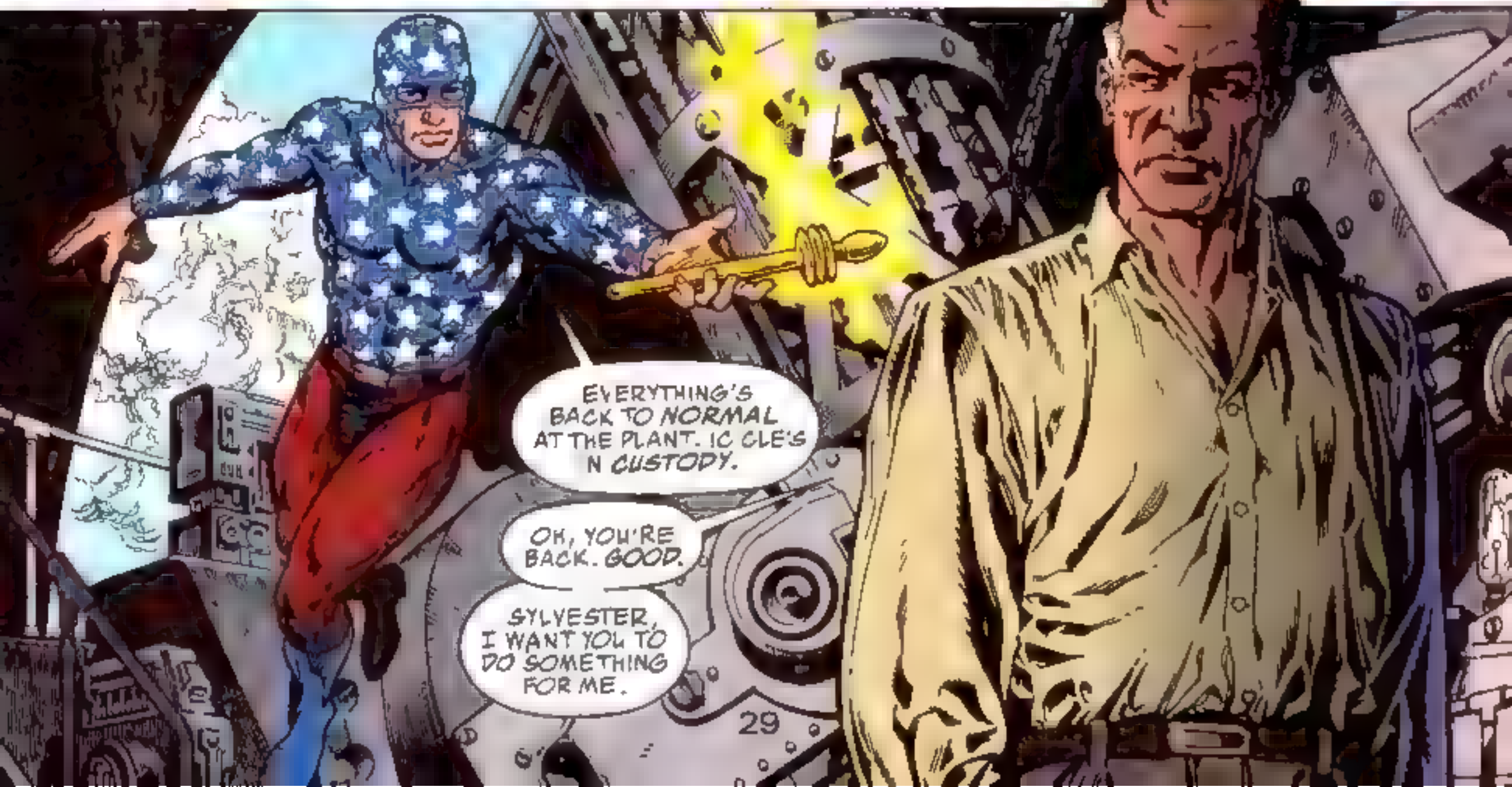
GIVE SPANOLS MY BEST. POP. SEE YA WHENEVER.

SLAMM



OH, SON.

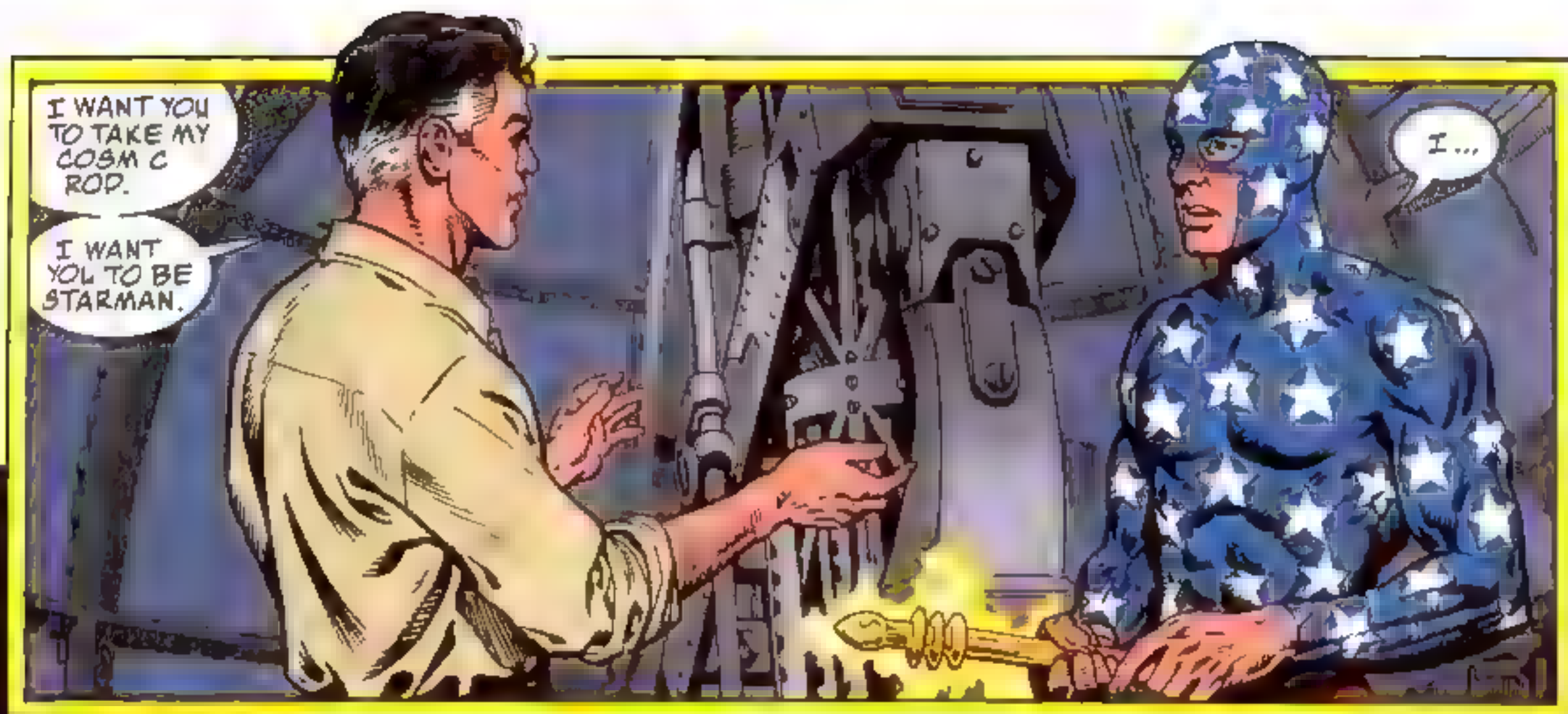
WHEN WILL YOU MAKE YOUR OLD MAN PROUD? WHEN WILL I GET TO BRAG ABOUT MY CHILDREN?



EVERYTHING'S BACK TO NORMAL AT THE PLANT. IC GLE'S IN CUSTODY.

OK, YOU'RE BACK. GOOD.

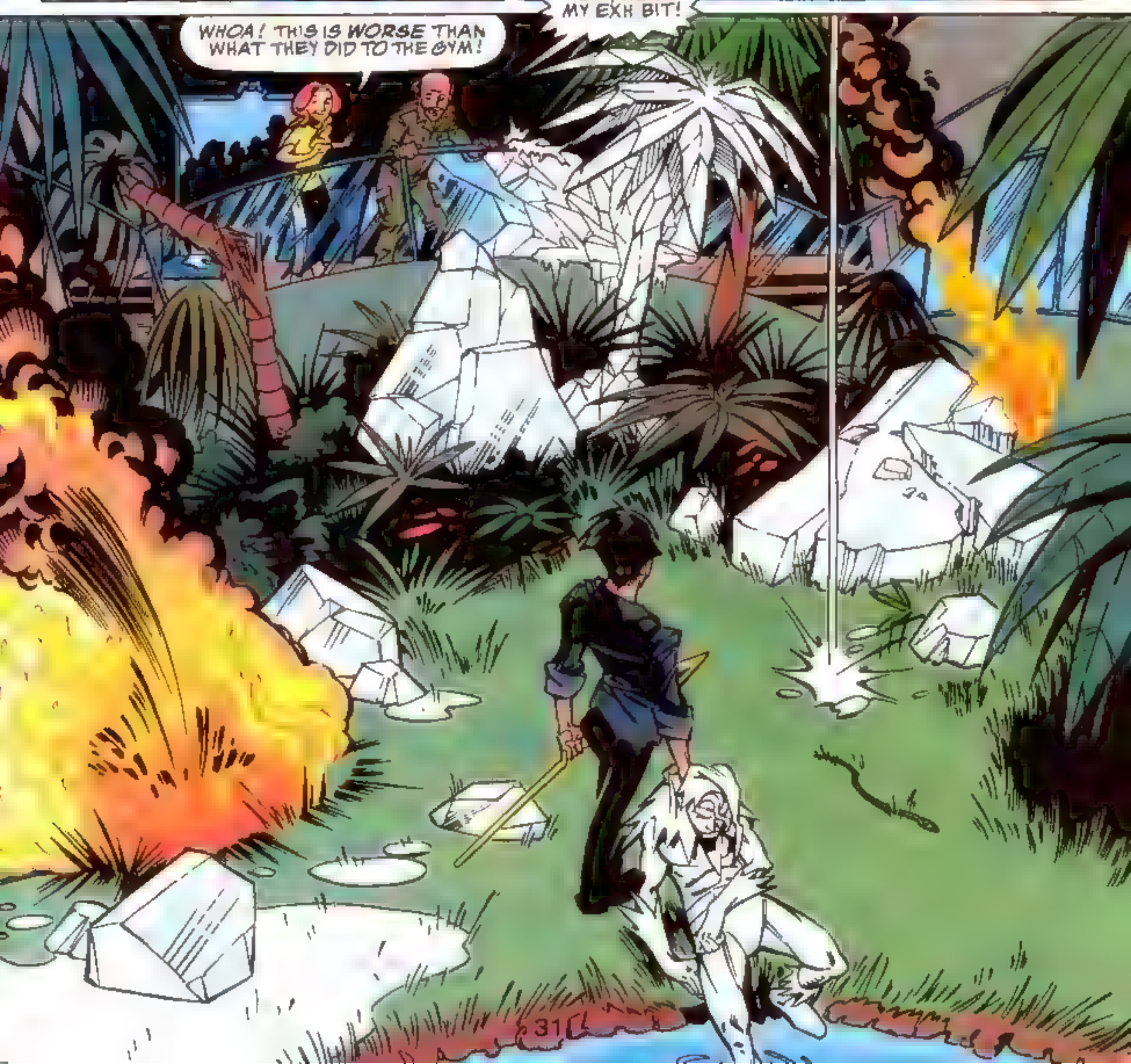
SYLVESTER, I WANT YOU TO DO SOMETHING FOR ME.



I CAN'T, TED.

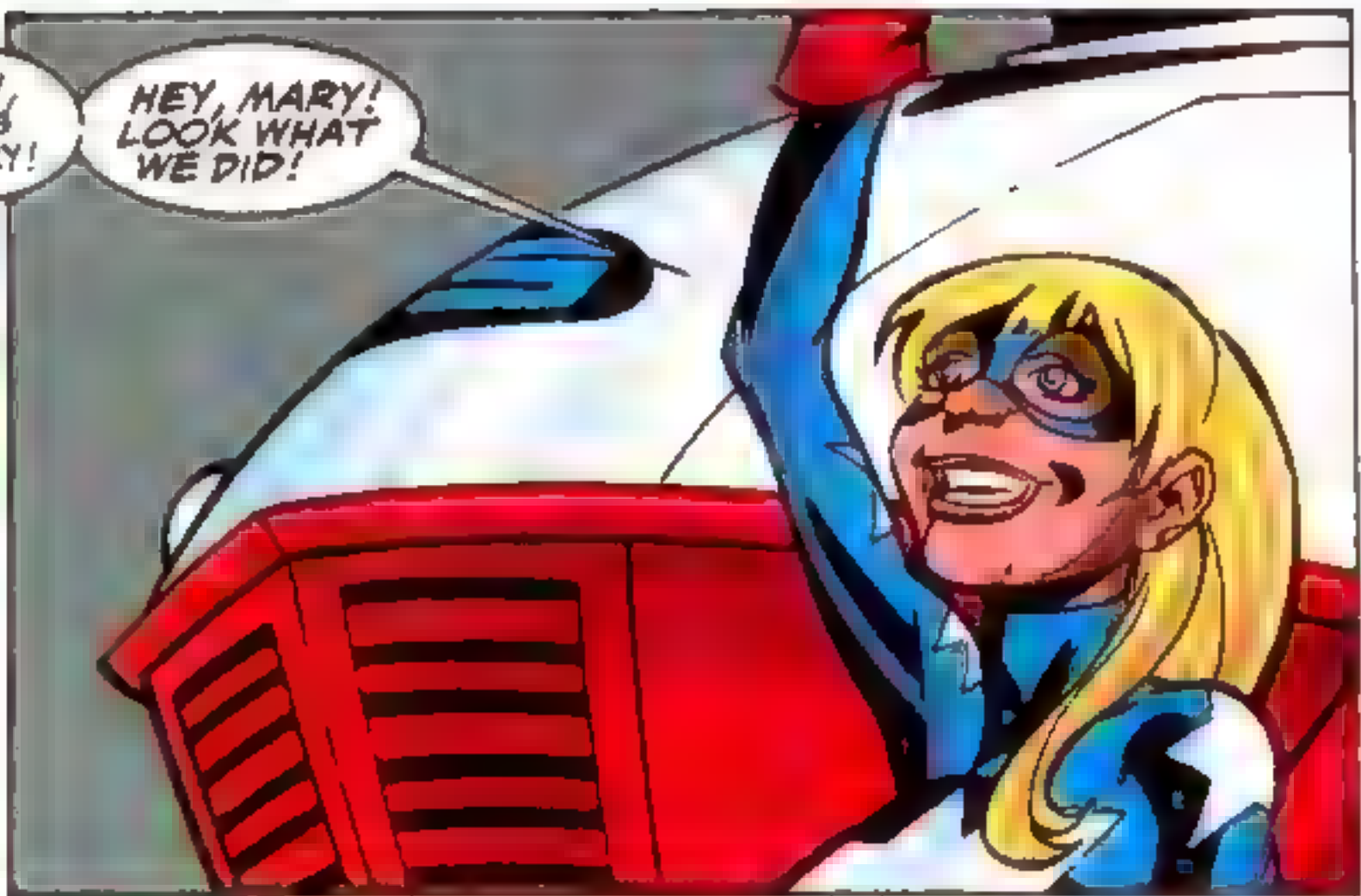
I CAN'T BE THE NEXT STARMAN.

'WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?'



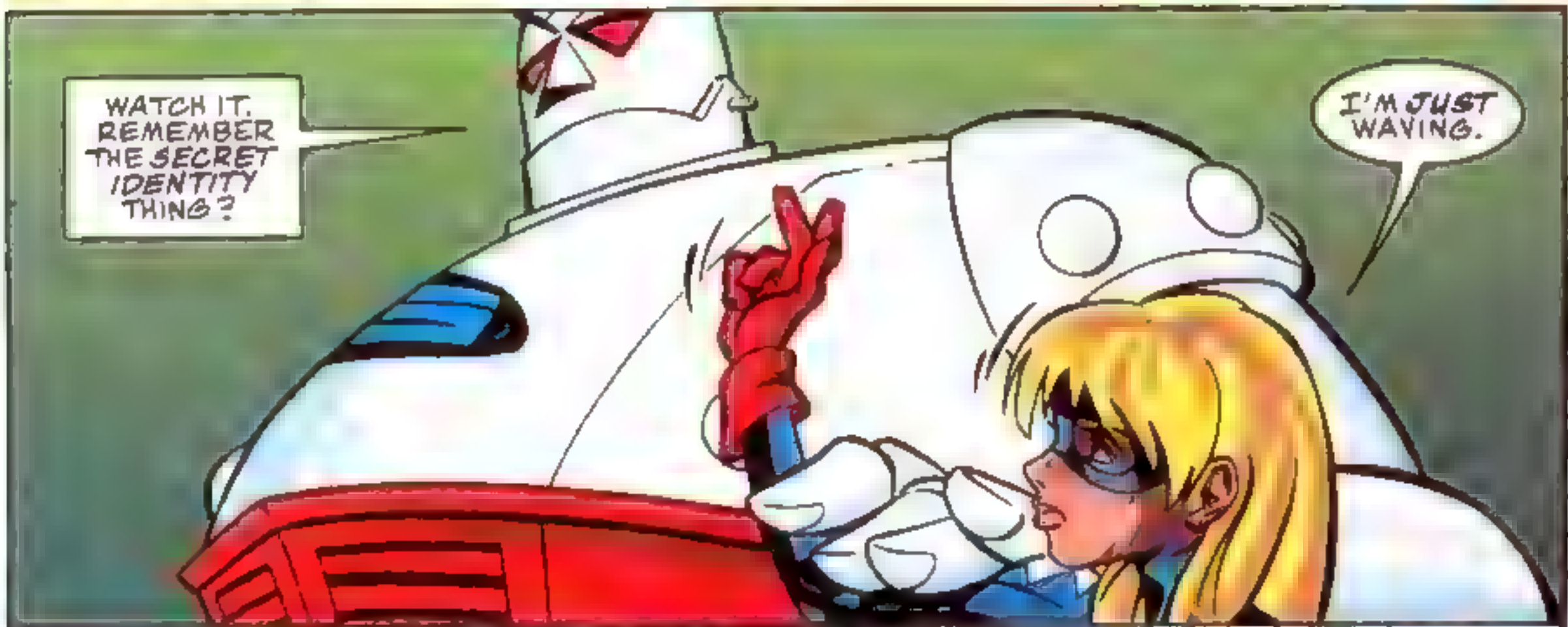


WAY TO GO, COURTNEY!



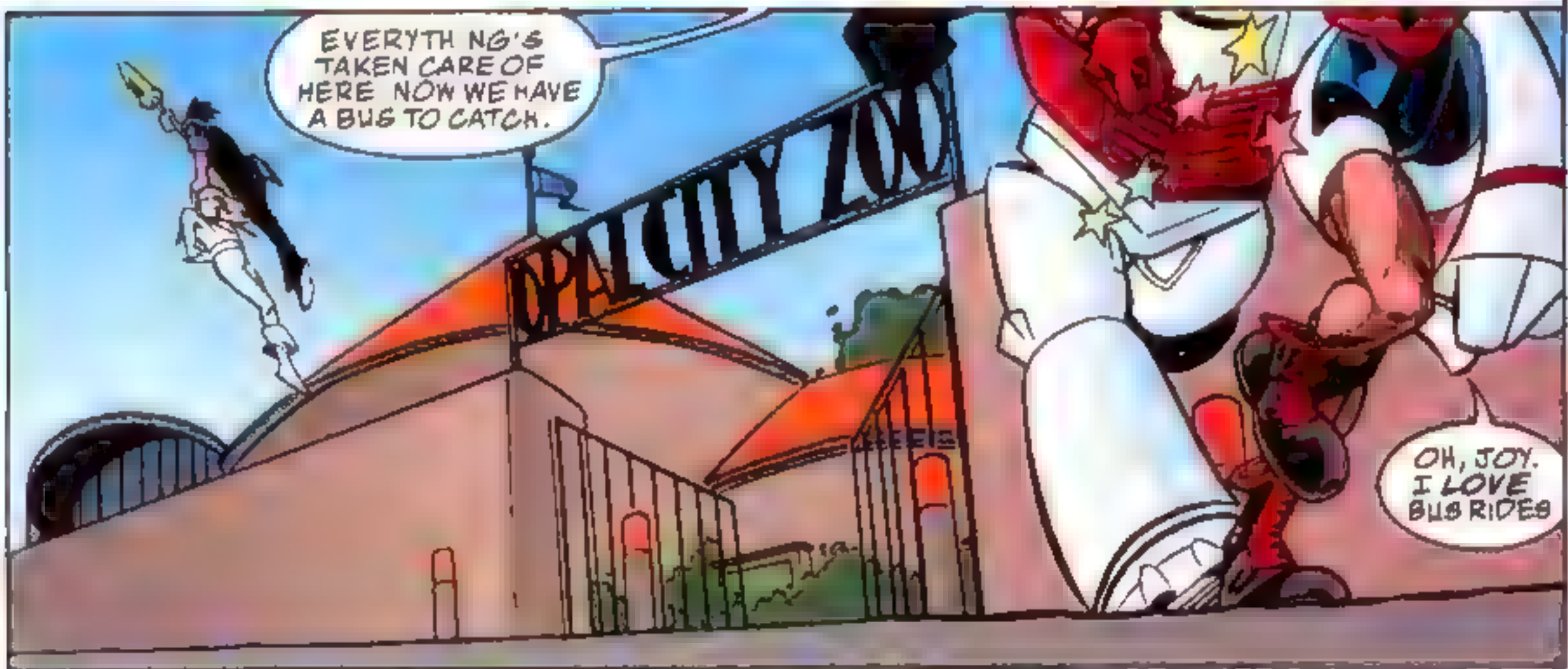
HEY, IT'S MARY!

HEY, MARY! LOOK WHAT WE DID!



WATCH IT. REMEMBER THE SECRET IDENTITY THING?

I'M JUST WAVING.

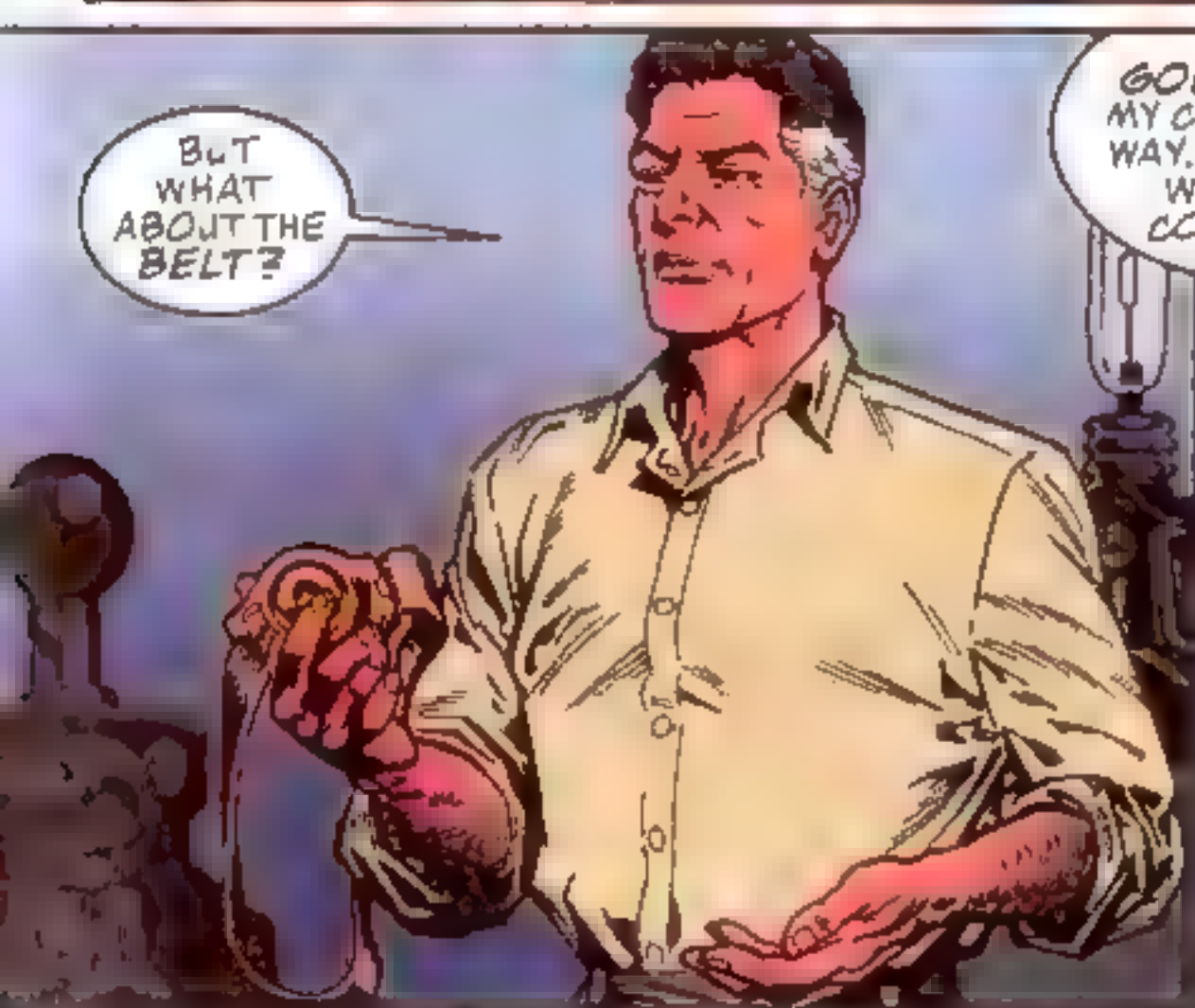
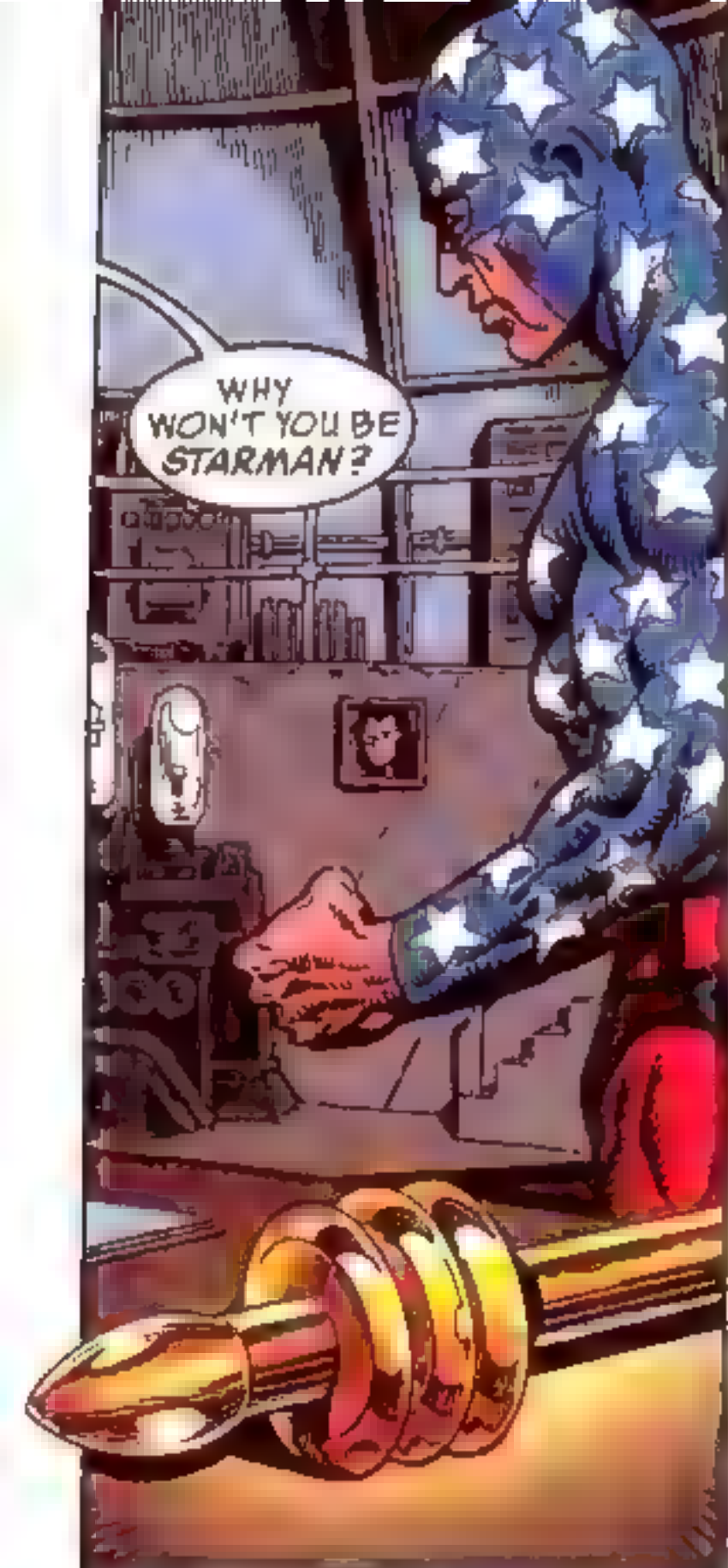


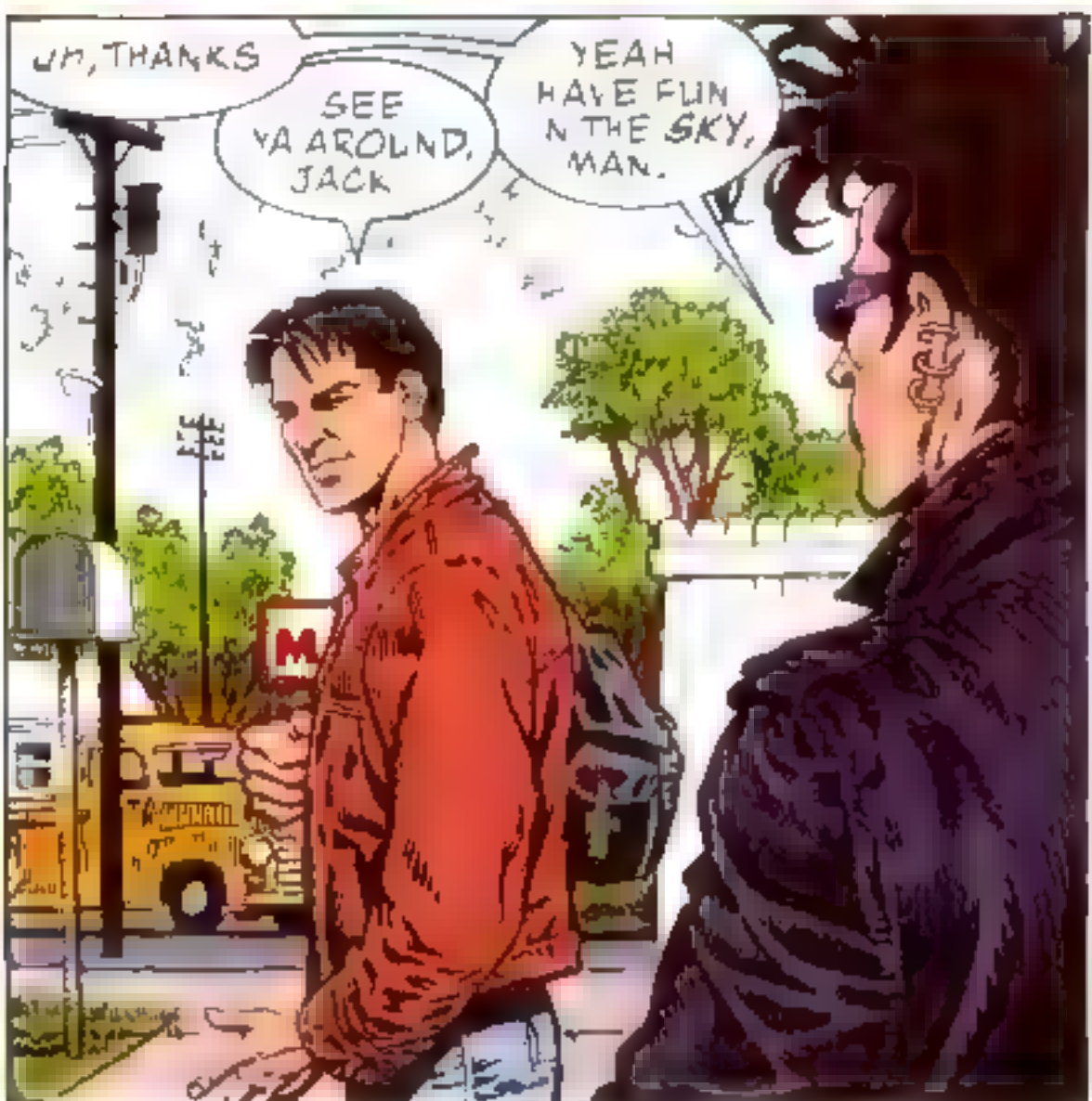
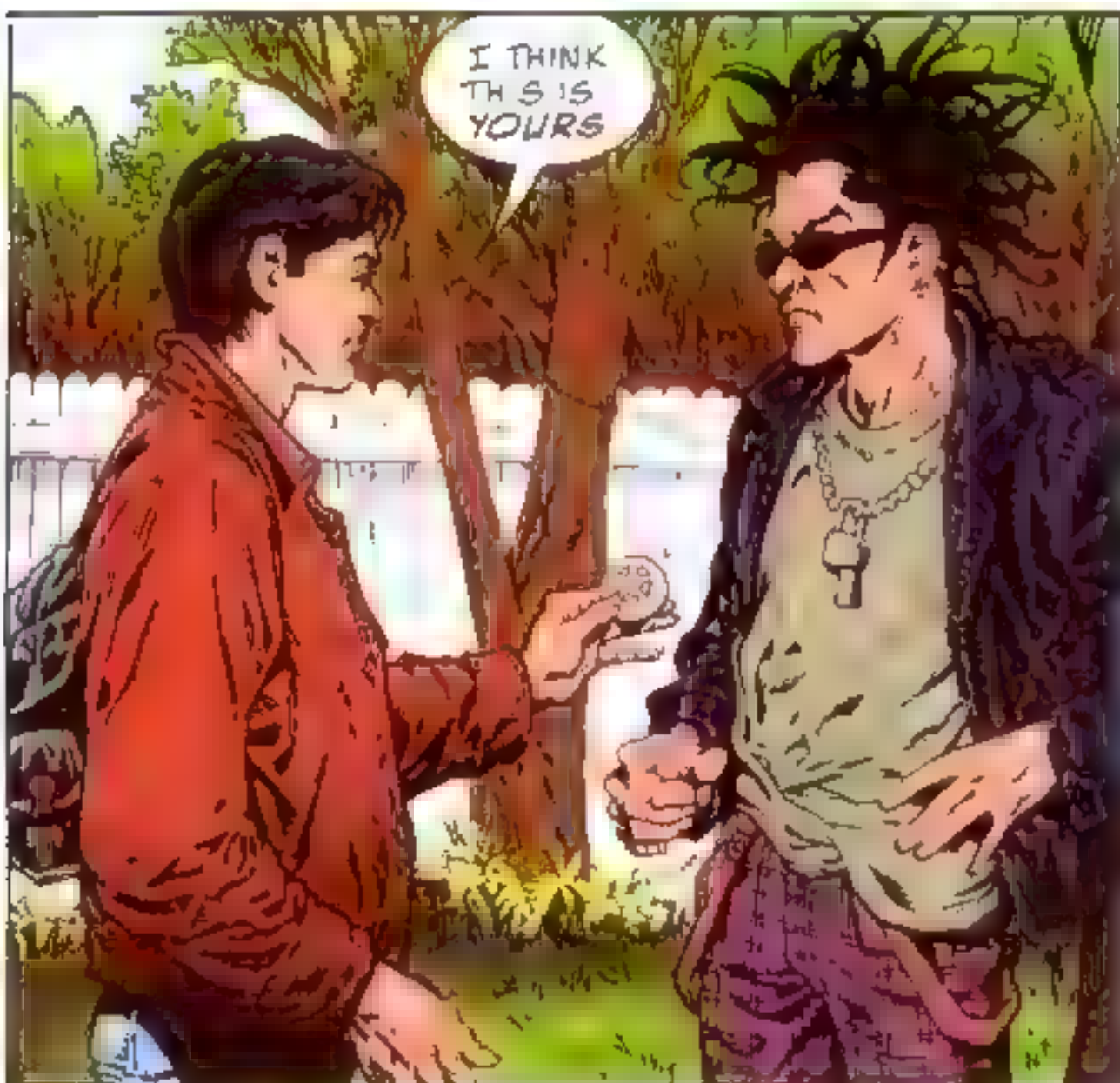
EVERYTHING'S TAKEN CARE OF HERE NOW WE HAVE A BUS TO CATCH.

OH, JOY. I LOVE BUS RIDES



But why?





And the last time we ever REALLY talked. His decision at that time wasn't EASY to understand.



It makes PERFECT sense now. He knew Jack BETTER than I did.

I worked ALL THROUGH that night. I wanted to do SOMETHING for Sylvester.



And Jay Garrick OWED me a favor. So I got FREE overnight delivery.



And Sylvester got a NEW belt to match his costume.



Sylvester—

I know how much you like being in the sky. I hope you'll find this more suited to your color scheme.

Always your friend,
TED

He died not long after.





I kept the golden belt. It got lost in the shuffle over the years--

...until Mist's son found it in Jack's shop.

ugh!



HOW'D IT GO? YOU ALL RIGHT, SON?

mumble

DON'T YOU HAVE A GPS IN THERE? OR AT LEAST A COMPASS?



BRRRRKK!

BRAINIAC HERE GOT LOST.

ENDED UP IN TURK COUNTY.

AND WE MISSED THE SCHOOL BUS BACK TO BLUE VALLEY.



WELL, IT'S EASY TO GET LOST WHEN YOU'RE NOT FROM OPAL.

HOW DO THEY LOOK? WANT TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE UP TO THE JOB.

FINE. THE THRUSTERS SHOULD GET YOU BACK TO BLUE VALLEY WITH NO PROBLEM.

AND IF YOU HAVE ANY MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT BELT, JUST GIVE ME A RING.

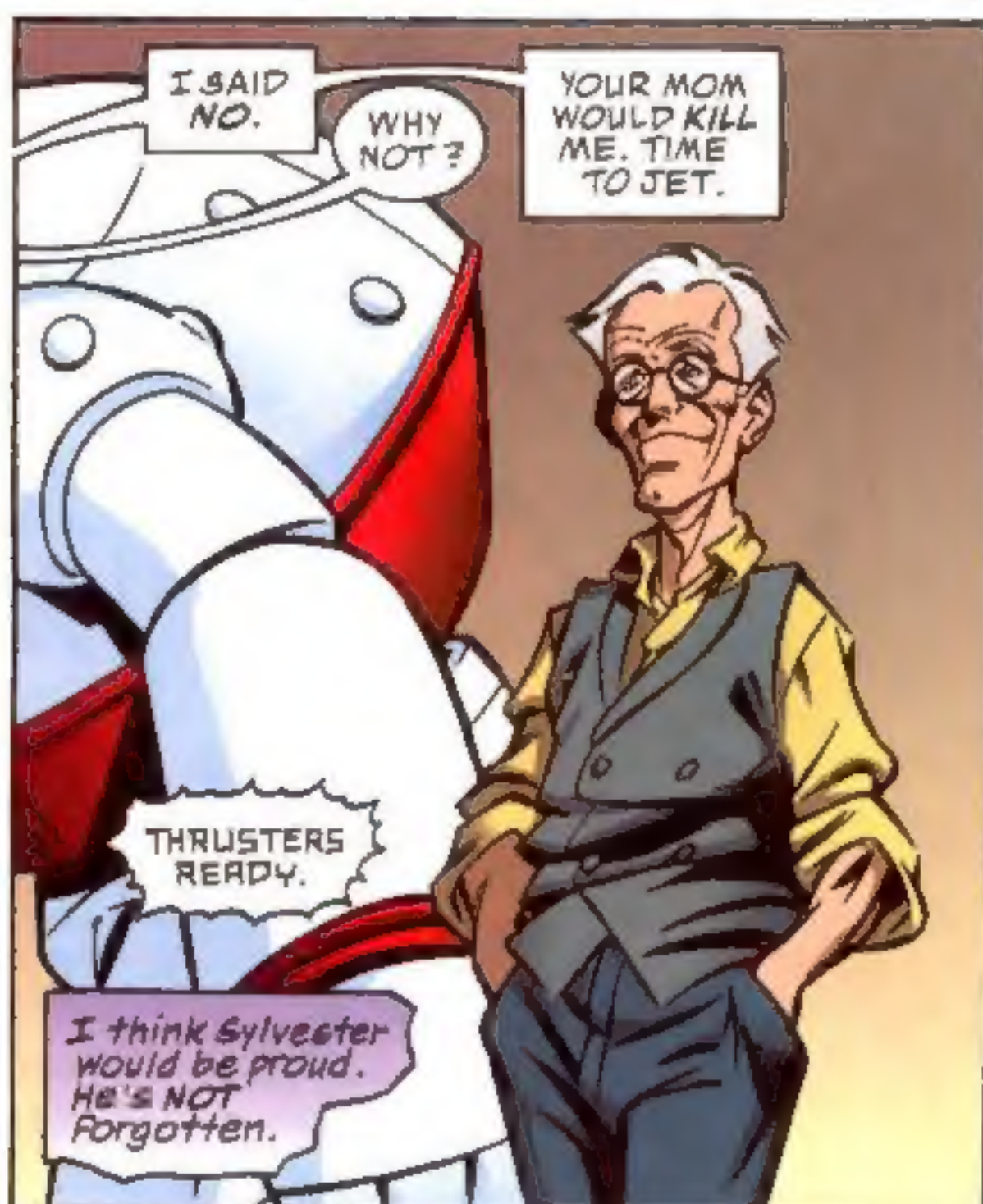
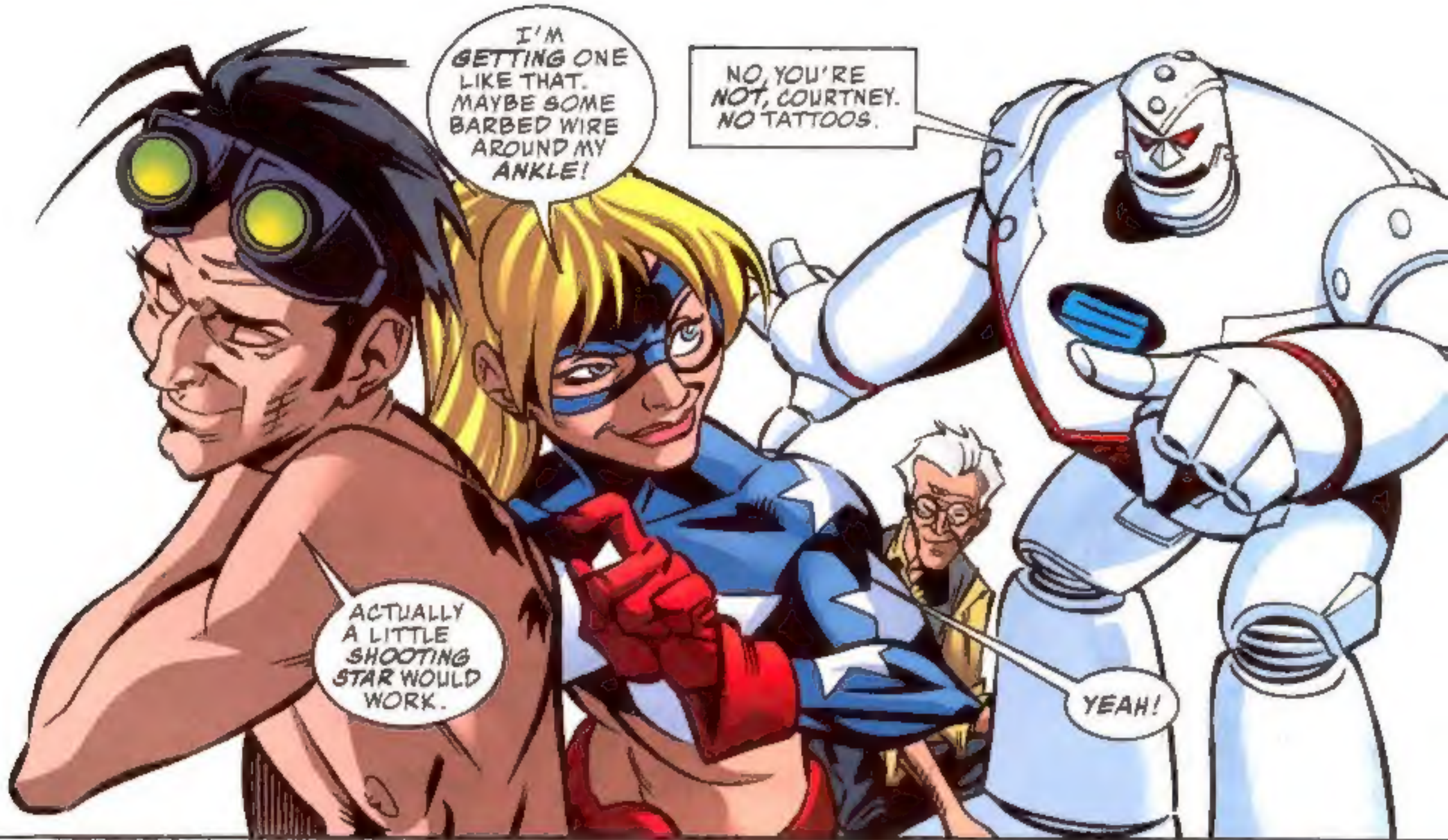


WELL, IT'S GETTING LATE SO YOU SHOULD GET GOING. DON'T LET THE DOOR HIT YOU ON THE WAY OUT.

HEY, I CAN'T WAIT TO GET OUT OF HERE. YOU'RE ALMOST AS LAME AS--



HEY! COOL TATTOOS!



It's nice to know the
Star Spangled Kid
lives again...

I AM
GETTING
ONE!

NO,
YOU'RE
NOT.

YES,
I AM!

NO,
YOU'RE
NOT!

Well... at least
for now.

★ **NEXT ISSUE:** ★
THE ORIGIN OF THE NEW
PATRIOTIC PAIR!

SEND MAIL TO STARS & STAMPS
C/O DC COMICS 1700 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY, 10019!